

The Middlebury Campus

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE JAN 2012

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UNITING IN REMEMBRANCE

LIBRARY



ANDREW POORYUGA

Members of the College community gathered in front of Mead Chapel for a Vigil for Unity on Monday, Jan. 16, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Other events to commemorate the civil rights icon included a keynote speech from Dr. Maisha T. Winn, associate professor in Language, Literacy and Culture in the Division of Educational Studies at Emory University, and a concert to celebrate the songs of the American Negro Spiritual featuring Twilight Artist-in-Residence Francois Clemmons, students and other artists.

College adds Chicago Posse

By Allison Forrest

The College's partnership with the Posse Foundation has been expanded from the original New York Posse to include a 12-member Posse cohort from Chicago for the Class of 2016. The Posse Foundation, which has partnered with the College since 1998, identifies and recruits public high school students with strong academic and leadership potential, who then receive full-tuition scholarships from the organization's 39 partner institutions.

According to Dean of Admissions Greg Buckles, the Posse program allows the College to matriculate students who are at risk to be overlooked in the traditional selection process.

"Posse students bring a wealth of diversity in all sorts of forms — certainly usually racial-ly and culturally, but also in the range of talents, backgrounds and interests they have," he said.

The program is not a minority-based program or a need-based program, though, but rather seeks to bring public school students to top schools across the country.

"It's a leadership program that really values diversity," said Dean of the College and Chief Diversity Officer Shirley Collado, a member of the first Posse cohort and former executive vice president of the Posse Foundation. "[It] allows us to have students who represent demographics of the public schools that they come from."

Because of the success of the New York Posse, the decision to expand the program was made



COURTESY: RONALD SEYMOUR

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz and Dean of the College and Chief Diversity Officer Shirley Collado welcome the new Chicago Posse Scholars.

with multiple factors considered.

"We looked at [current Posse scholars] in terms of how have they been doing academically and what kind of leadership contributions have we observed," she said.

The program has seen marked success by creating a community for students who might otherwise have difficulty adjusting to life at Middlebury.

The Posse Foundation reports a 90 percent six-year graduation rate, a rate that is consistent with the College's Posse Scholars.

According to Collado, "The biggest indicators of [student] retention are finding a cohort your first semester of college and identifying a mentor," she said, emphasizing the difficulty many students have in adjusting to college life. "What Posse did is it took those two simple ideas

and made a program out of it."

Posse Scholars go through an eight-month training program prior to arriving at college and receive ongoing mentoring from a faculty member during their time at Middlebury.

Rana Abdelhamid '15, a member of New York Posse 13, feels that the pre-collegiate training allows Posse Scholars to adapt effectively while at Middlebury because of the strong community the program creates.

"You're part of this greater network," she said. "It pushes you to try your best and be a leader on campus."

Abdelhamid has felt immense support, not only from her mentor, Visiting Assistant Professor of Education Studies Tara Affolter, but also from the Posse upperclassmen.

Affolter believes that having other Posse Scholars and a men-

SEE NEW, 4

AT LONG LAST, THAI FOOD MAKES ITS DEBUT IN TOWN PAGE 5

SOPHIE CLARK '11 TALKS ABOUT "SURVIVING" LIFE AFTER MIDD PAGES 12-13



PLAY FESTIVAL OFFERS 24 HOURS OF THEATER PAGE 19

Task force sparks debate

By Jeremy Kallan and Danny Zhang

On Jan. 11, the Task Force on Alcohol and Social Life held an open forum at Omega Alpha (Tavern) focusing on the role of social houses in campus social life, the first of four forums designed to gather student input.

The task force is a continuation of the conversation on alcohol and social life on campus that began last year with an alcohol survey and a campus-wide forum. It will submit recommendations by late April, at which point President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz and Dean of the College and Chief Diversity Officer Shirley Collado will decide the best course of action.

The task force has been divided into three working groups to examine student culture on campus, social life at peer institutions and alcohol policy at a national level.

Through their discussions in the last three months, the task force identified four areas of specific concern which became the topics of the four Winter Term forums: social houses, party registration policies, first-year social life and Public Safety's role on campus.

In addition, the task force is hosting four focus groups comprised of first-year students, residential life staff, non-drinkers and women aimed at more diverse insight.

THE FIRST FORUM: ROLE OF SOCIAL HOUSES

In introducing the first forum, the task force emphasized that its members are merely gathering

SEE FORUM, 2

New center focuses on social influence

By Ian Stewart

In Dec. 2010, a philanthropist named Dan Doyle approached Director of Athletics Erin Quinn with a unique proposition: developing a center in Middlebury that would encourage, coordinate and support youth projects tackling some of the world's most pressing and challenging crises.

On Jan. 9, President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz announced the realization of the project, which will be dubbed the Middlebury Center for Social Entrepreneurship (CSE). From its office in Marbleworks, the center will distribute grants to students, host training sessions and bring lecturers to campus in an effort to support both high school and college students tackling some of the world's most pressing and challenging crises.

"From the standpoint of youth and bringing this to students, we're looking at addressing social issues in creative ways," said Heather

Neuwirth '08, the CSE's associate director for operations and development. "Whereas some people might look at the word 'entrepreneurship' and think profit, we're thinking about social impact."

The Jan. 25 dedication of the center is the result of a year of concentrated effort both from the College's administration and from outside contributors.

Dan Doyle, founder of the Institute for International Sport and now the CSE's senior director, connected Middlebury with Alan Hassenfeld, the key patron of the project. The former CEO of toymaker Hasbro, Hassenfeld developed a friendship with Doyle through his support for the World Scholar-Athlete Games — a program Doyle himself conceived in the 1990s — and a shared passion to sponsor long-term student activism.

Hassenfeld's generosity made the center a reality, explained Jon Isham, professor of environmental

SEE CSE, 4

INSIDE



BEYOND THE BUBBLE

BY BRONWYN OATLEY

In Southwest China on Saturday, Jan. 14, violence erupted after Chinese government officials fired into a crowd of Tibetan independence activists as they gathered around the body of a man who martyred himself through the practice of self-immolation.

While a virtual media ban imposed by the Chinese authorities has restricted media access in the region, London-based organization Free Tibet reported that at least one woman was killed in the protest as Chinese soldiers clashed with over 1000 people.

The violence occurred in the town of Aba in Sichuan province. Since that time anti-Chinese sentiment has continued to rise and resulted in a dramatic increase in the practice of self-immolation.

Tibetan advocacy groups state that monks, nuns and ordinary citizens have used the practice of self-immolation with increasing frequency as a method by which to protest for Tibetan freedom, and for the return of the Dalai Lama – the Buddhist spiritual leader who was forced to seek refuge in India over 40 years ago.

The Washington Post noted that China considers the Dalai Lama to be a separatist, and would like to select a pro-Beijing successor in the future.

Since large-scale protests were held in 2008 the Chinese government has used their authority in Tibet to detain hundreds of monks, forcing them to undergo "patriotic education," as reported by *The New York Times*. This method has been used in order to try and force citizens and religious officials into following the Chinese party line against the Dalai Lama. One such "educational" procedure forces monks to denounce the legitimacy of the Buddhist spiritual leader.

In voicing their displeasure, monks have taken in increasing numbers to the act of self-immolation. While self-immolation is a practice that has been used for centuries in some cultures, it has developed into a tool for political protest over the last half-century. From anti-Vietnam war demonstrations to Arab-spring inciting protests, this form of martyrdom has been effective in garnering public sympathy in a much more effective way than suicide bombing.

Unlike suicide attacks, these protests do not harm onlookers, but draw a significant amount of media attention, because of their graphic nature. Once set on fire, protesters are quickly engulfed in flames, often resulting in third degree burns, shock and asphyxiation. While many self-immolators die in the act, some do not and live the rest of their lives with large-scale skin grafts and the loss of limbs.

The Chinese government has condemned the practice of self-immolation, calling it terrorist activity. Unsurprisingly, Voice of America News also reported that Beijing has been critical of the Dalai Lama's response to such protests.

In an interview with the BBC in 2011 the Dalai Lama stated that while he believed those who practiced self-immolation were brave, he warned that such a practice would do more harm than good – resulting in a greater crackdown by Chinese officials.

While the practice of self-immolation has become more common in Tibet, the heavy-handed response by the Chinese authorities against protesters has not been used since 2008 when at least 10 people were killed.

It is too soon to tell whether or not Saturday's protest and subsequent crackdown will encourage a greater wave of political suppression by Chinese authorities, however it appears evident that popular anger in Tibet is reaching a critical point. The union of spiritual leaders and citizens against the authority of the Chinese is a powerful combination, and symbolic acts of martyrdom will continue to increase mass sympathy for the Tibetan independence.

Forum underscores need for new programming

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The audience expressed a desire for more cooperation between organizations and a unified vision for the social houses. For example, joint parties hosted by multiple organizations could improve on fundraising and advertising efforts.

RESPONSES TO THE FORUM AND TASK FORCE

Smith Abbott expressed intentions to improve advertising for the forums to increase attendance and participation, the need for which was echoed by many sources.

"[We] need student input in order to shape our own thinking and make sure that we are on target," said Smith Abbott.

She said she was pleased to hear new ideas, such as the need to adapt to new modes of communication in the party-planning process. She said the task force needs to think about "how we remain thoughtfully current and ... ways we can work to accommodate the way people actually live today."

Tavern Treasurer Scott Klenet '12 commented that the College has lost its former status as a school "greatly balanced between academic rigor and the opportunity to enjoy collegiate life."

Vincent Recca '12, SGA president, agreed that this is an opportunity to get the College "back on the right track."

Wonnacott Commons Residential Adviser Stanis Moody-Roberts '11.25 hoped the work of the task force would lead to a "better understanding between the administration and students."

Recca also offered an SGA perspective on the task force, characterizing the SGA's role as a "facilitator in these discussions" through co-sponsorship and encouragement of active participation.

"In order for the alcohol task force to be successful, it is going to require a substantial amount of student participation," he said.

Furthermore, Recca expressed his wish to build a true campus community in which "alcohol wouldn't play such a major role" as it is currently used to break down barriers between groups.

GOING FORWARD

Many sources brought up the inherent

BannerWeb servers transferred to Florida

By Charlotte O'Herron

Library and Information Services (LIS) moved the College's online hosting service of BannerWeb from the College campus to the SunGuard facility in Florida in December in order to improve the disaster recovery process and better protect institutional data.

Banner is the College's primary administrative system, consisting of a series of servers designed to meet the needs of various offices and departments within the College.

LIS and the College administration began to consider relocating the Banner servers to the hosting facility in Florida in Dec. 2010. After concluding that such a change would improve the system's performance and reliability, Old Chapel conducted testing in Nov. 2011. In Dec. 2011, the Banner servers moved from a local facility to SunGuard.

SunGuard is a manufacturer of Banner software and was chosen as the College's hosting site for its expert knowledge of BannerWeb. The SunGuard hosting facility now manages every aspect of the Banner system except for custom programming, which works closely with various offices of the College and customizes software to meet individualized needs.

"In our judgment, this seems like a worthwhile endeavor, and the benefits essentially are the improved level of expertise and the disaster-recovery facility that SunGuard provides," said L. Douglas and Laura J. Meredith Dean of LIS and Chief Information Officer Michael Roy.

The new Banner location will significantly improve the servers' level of security and provide a disaster-recovery facility that Ban-



Dean of Students Katy Smith Abbott, speaking above, co-chairs the Alcohol Task Force which is charged with addressing the social scene at the College.

conflict between laws regarding alcohol use and the reality that underage drinking is an unavoidable part of social life for many.

Smith Abbott acknowledged the significance of this dilemma.

"The task force does not see its charge as eradicating underage drinking, but tackling the impact of dangerous drinking on students and the broader campus community," she said. "Our primary focus is student health and safety, recognizing that the College is responsible for upholding Vermont state law."

Executive Director of Health and Counseling Services Gus Jordan spoke to the task force about two common models for addressing this conflict. The first, called "environmental management," involves combining strict enforcement with increased programming.

"Harms management" is the second model, which Smith Abbott said is closer to what the College currently exhibits. It involves intervention "when things go wrong" and Public Safety acting as "an ally" to students.

She acknowledged that the role of Public Safety is a contentious point among students.

While she said it was too early to know, Smith Abbott predicts the final report will include a recommendation for increased and more diverse programming as well as a potential social norms campaign to dispel common assumptions and to educate students about the realities of alcohol consumption on campus.

Going forward, she noted the need to find solutions that are "a fit to ... the particular culture here ... that is distinct even from other NESAC schools." In addition, she emphasized the importance of sustainability and adaptability of the final recommendations, referencing Bowdoin College's 2010 ban on hard liquor as an example of a solution that has received mixed reviews.

Smith Abbott encouraged students to continue talking to the Task Force and the administration, both in the forums and on their own, to make sure their voices are heard in the process. Focus groups will be held on Jan. 26 and Feb. 2 for non-drinkers

MCAB's WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDDLEBURY?

Free Friday Film
50/50 will be playing
at Dana Auditorium
FRIDAY AT 7 & 10 P.M. ▶



Zumba
Get moving and get
warm in McCullough
Social Space
THURSDAY 5-6 P.M. AND
SATURDAY 9-10 A.M.

Hypnotist Tom Deluca
Get out of your mind
at McCullough Social
Space
FRIDAY 8 P.M.

Bunker Night
Late night dancing at
Bunker
FRIDAY 11 P.M.

GOT IDEAS FOR A SYMPOSIUM? WE'D LOVE
TO HEAR THEM! THE MCAB SPEAKERS
COMMITTEE IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICA-
TIONS FOR THE SPRING. MCABSPEAK@
MIDDLEBURY.EDU

Alumnus donates tract of land to the College

By Emily Singer

On Jan. 9 President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz announced that Trustee Emeritus Willard T. Jackson '51 donated a 269-acre plot of land to the College located adjacent to the Organic Garden along Cider Mill Road in Cornwall. The donation is the last of four parcels of land totaling 377 acres given to the College by Jackson over the past five years.

Jackson began speaking with Liebowitz and Senior Vice President and Chief Philanthropic Advisor Mike Schoenfeld '73 in the mid-aughts about gifting a portion of his land to the College. Jackson donated approximately 60 acres of land to the College in 2007, followed by approximately 20 acres in 2008, 28 acres in 2010 and his largest and final gift of 269 acres in Dec. 2011.

The 377-acre property features a diverse landscape of fields, woodlands and wetlands, all of which will be made available to Environmental Studies students for research purposes.

Associate in Science Instruction in Environmental Studies Marc Lapin plans to use the lands to study forest and soil carbon along with habitat connectivity in his ENVS 112: Natural Science and the Environment course.

"Mr. Jackson has planted thousands of trees to help improve water quality and habitat connectivity," Lapin wrote in an email. "The plantings represent one of the most extensive projects of this type in the region, rivaled only by some farms that have participated in government-sponsored programs. [In addition], a patch of ecologically significant [and endangered] clayplain and transition hardwood limestone forest is protected and well-buffered in the center of the lands."

Liebowitz and Schoenfeld emphasized Jackson's role as a "steward of the land," propagating wildlife diversity through strategic agricultural planting and the installation of over 7,000 native species of trees, all with the future of the prop-

erty in mind.

"He's got a tree that he brought in from Ohio, an oak tree," Schoenfeld said. "He took great care to bring this one tree and plant it on his property ... Why would you go get an oak tree from Ohio, bring it here to plant it in a special place? And if you ask him, he says, 'It's going to look amazing 100 years from now.' Here's an 83-year-old guy thinking about what a tree's going to look like 100 years from now ... That's what this gift is about. It's not about him. His legacy is that he gave something for others."

Jackson's final 269-acre donation houses Taproot, his 18,000 square foot New England vernacular farmhouse, and impressive views of the Green Mountains and the College. In spite of the fact that the College is the legal owner of the property, Jackson and his wife retain the right to live in Taproot for the remainder of their lives. Jackson will continue to be the primary caretaker of the land until his death, after which the College will assume maintenance responsibilities.

Early discussions about the use and preservation of the land between Jackson, Liebowitz and Schoenfeld considered involving the Middlebury Area Land Trust (MALT) in a conservation easement, which would have given MALT control over development and conservation efforts. Ultimately MALT was not involved because Jackson donated his land directly to the College with no restrictions in the deed due to strong mutual values regarding conservation and the confidence that the College would treat Jackson's land well.

The donation of Taproot and its surrounding property was written into Jackson's estate plans, but the pre-mortem donation of the final parcel of land came as somewhat of a surprise to Liebowitz and Schoenfeld. Jackson based his decision to donate the most crucial portion of his land on the level of trust he feels for the College, according to Liebowitz.

"[Jackson is] a conservationist," Li-



GOOGLE EARTH

The land, pictured above, sits between Route 125 (College St.) and Route 30.

ebowitz said. "He loves land, and I think he was convinced through our discussions that we saw this land as incredibly important to the College, to the College's future. We're going to use this for educational purposes and I think that's what made him confident that he could gift this large parcel to the College now."

Aside from environmental research, the potential use of the land remains undefined.

"Nothing is set in stone at all," said Schoenfeld. "It's all about future possibilities, but because it's such an extraordinary asset in terms of its beauty, the location and its [proximity] to campus, it's just a wonderful opportunity for the

future."

The majority of the land was purchased from former trustee and board chairman Arnold LaForce '35 approximately 20 years ago with specific instructions from LaForce to "do the right thing," which both men understood to be protecting the land and giving back to the College in some way.

Jackson's 377-acre donation is the largest since Joseph Battell donated 30,000 acres of Bread Loaf Mountain in 1915, only 40 of which make up the campus of the Bread Loaf School of English.

Jackson's donation exceeds the size of the College's main 350-acre campus.

College to open C.V. Starr School in Cameroon

By Paul Warnke

The College will open the newest C.V. Starr-Middlebury School Abroad in Cameroon for the fall 2012 semester as it looks to expand its Francophone options



IAN STEWART

Students will now have the opportunity to study in Cameroon.

along with its African Studies program.

Old Chapel has considered establishing another program in Africa for some time, but because of fiscal constraints was forced to shelve the proposal.

"We had been thinking about a program in sub-Saharan Africa for a while, but when the economic crisis hit, we tabled plans for a couple of years and then picked them up again about a year and a half ago," said Michael Geisler, vice president of Language Schools, schools abroad and graduate programs.

Although C.V. Starr-Middlebury Schools Abroad are geared toward language studies, the new program in Cameroon grew out of the desire to offer a location for African Studies students.

"While the program adds an important Francophone country to our list, this was not the primary driver of selecting Cameroon. The site was selected in close collaboration with African Studies faculty.

"Cameroon is considered to be a safe and stable environment for our students," added Geisler. "It is also a kind of miniature version of the continent as a whole in terms of geographic and ethnic diversity."

Located in Yaoundé, the country's capital, the program will be partnered with L'Université catholique d'Afrique centrale (UCAC), which is strong in the social sciences and philosophy. Along with courses taught at the university, the College will construct special courses tailored to the interests of program participants.

"We expect to complement the courses that students can take at UCAC with courses that we develop for our program," said Jeff Cason, dean of international programs and Knox professor of international studies & politics.

Tucked into the hills of Yaoundé, UCAC combines rigorous academics with physical beauty, according to Geisler.

"UCAC has a very nice campus in a beautiful setting in the hills," said Geisler. "While, strictly speaking, this is not an academic strength, it will help our students in establishing an academic home base in a country that is otherwise very different from what they are used to in the U.S."

While French and English are Cameroon's official languages, over 200 languages are spoken in the ethnically di-

verse country. But because students stick to the Language Pledge, French will dominate the academic landscape. However, Cason anticipates many will pick up one of the local languages and dialects outside of the classroom.

"We expect that students will learn some local languages as part of their homestays, to be sure, but decided not to offer formal instruction in any of the local languages."

The eight to 12 students that Geisler anticipates will enroll in the program's first year will be staying with host families, and if necessary in shared apartments.

Living in a developing country deprived of many amenities, Geisler cautioned that students may initially be outside of their comfort zone.

"Since Cameroon does not have the same standard of living or the same infrastructure as many of our other sites (particularly our sites in Europe), students will need to be a little resourceful and show initiative in making living arrangements, connecting with people and creating their own day-to-day routines," said Geisler.

PUBLIC SAFETY LOG JANUARY 6 - JANUARY 15, 2012

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
1/6/12	11:01 p.m.	Drug Violation Use	Marijuana	Starr Hall	CASE CLOSED
1/7/12	12:00 a.m.	Vandalism	Unknown suspects	Battell Hall	NO SUSPECTS
1/8/12	12:15 a.m.	Fire Alarm Report	Unknown suspects pulled alarm	Milliken Hall	NO SUSPECTS
1/9/12	9:06 p.m.	Fire Alarm Report	Cooking	Self Reliance House	CASE CLOSED
1/9/12	1:00 a.m.	Alcohol Citation	Possession by Minor	Prescott House	CASE CLOSED
1/9/12	1:15 a.m.	Fire Alarm Report	Unknown Cause	Battell Hall	CASE CLOSED
1/13/12	9:52 p.m.	Drug Violation Use	Drug paraphernalia	Homer Harris	CASE CLOSED

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 47 alcohol citations between 1/6/12 and 1/15/12.

COLLEGE SHORTS

NEWS FROM ACROSS THE NATION
NEWS FROM ACROSS THE NATION
NEWS FROM ACROSS THE NATION

COMPILED BY SAM SIMAS

Can MIT professor save USPS?

The United States Postal Service (USPS) has been struggling to stay afloat in recent years due to increased dependence on electronic communication, but a proposition by MIT Comparative Media Studies Lecturer Shiva Ayyadurai has the potential to save the institution.

Ayyadurai has suggested that the USPS revise its approach toward technology and deviate from the organization's traditional role of collecting and delivering letters and packages. The majority of contemporary companies rely on email communication, yet their email systems are often overloaded with an excess of spam.

This, according to Ayyadurai, is where the USPS can step in. Instead of laying off former mail carriers, the agency could train personnel to sort through the vast quantities of emails, determining which are useful and eliminating spam, revising the role of the USPS and making it relevant once again.

— UWIRE

Online "badges" challenge traditional diplomas

Many websites have developed "badges," which are administered to users for completing various online tasks, much like those given to Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts.

A company called OpenStudy awards users with electronic badges for consistently contributing intellectual content to study chat rooms. The number of badges that a user has indicates his or her level of expertise in a particular area of study.

Advocates of online badges argue that they offer access to what could ultimately become the equivalent of a college degree at little to no cost, and without having to set foot on a college campus. Additionally, the badges can be representative of skills that go beyond the mere possession of a diploma, such as civic virtue and service skills.

It remains to be seen if online badges will become widely accepted in academic and business communities, yet financing from large internet companies such as Mozilla suggest that the prominence of badges could increase in the future.

— Chronicle of Higher Education

Software catches and helps young plagiarists

Online filtering platforms used by teachers and professors to detect plagiarized student work, such as turnitin.com and WriteCheck, are now being used as teaching tools for students.

Professors across the nation have recently turned such programs into classroom resources, teaching students the difference between citing a quotation and plagiarizing by having them submit work through plagiarism detectors and repeatedly editing papers to eliminate similarities.

Many students enroll in institutions of higher learning without knowing how to properly interpret and incorporate information from sources, as opposed to parroting it.

A number of studies have concluded that plagiarism often stems from the misuse of quotations, as opposed to intended plagiarism. Using plagiarism software as a learning tool has given students the chance to turn reports that have been flagged as plagiarized into original works.

The presence of plagiarism has reportedly declined since the implementation of such programs in the classroom.

— Chronicle of Higher Education

Electrical fire forces midnight evacuation

By Salena Casha

At approximately 10:30 p.m. on Dec. 18, a transformer outside the east wing of the Chateau short-circuited, triggering fire alarms and knocking out power across campus. College Public Safety and the Middlebury Fire Department responded and extinguished flames from the electrical box and nearby trees.

Power was restored to campus buildings within hours of the transformer short-circuiting.

"The fire department put out the fire and we replaced the transformer with a temporary generator to power [the] Chateau," said Assistant Director of Facilities Services Michael Moser. "Within the next day, we changed the generator, called for spare parts from Central Vermont Public Services ... and they supplied the necessary elements."

The transformer that blew out was sent to an outside facility and analyzed to determine the source of the malfunction and conduct necessary repairs.

Students remaining on campus after finals week were temporarily evacuated from the Atwater suites and Chateau while the fire department searched each suite for secondary fires and smoke damage.

Chateau resident Kris Ogren '12 was in his room when the transformer blew out.

"I heard the first explosion and someone came running up the stairs to get the fire extinguisher," wrote Ogren in an

email. "When I came outside, I saw that the transformer box was on fire, and the other students were on the phone with Public Safety trying to figure out what to do."

Students in the Chateau moved into Allen while Public Safety cleared the area. Several smaller explosions were heard coming from the electrical box, the second of which caused the Chateau and Allen to lose electrical power. The final explosion resulted in the largest power outage, leaving Wright Theater, Sunderland Language Hall and the Atwater Suites without electricity.

The fire alarm in the Atwater Suites began to go off shortly after the buildings lost power. Students were then moved into the common room of Coffrin Hall, where they remained until the situation was resolved.

Atwater residents not allowed back into their respective suites until approximately 2 a.m., according to Atwater B resident Amy Prescott '12.

Responding to rumors of a similar fire in the Atwater suites, Associate Vice President of Facilities Services Norm Cushman clarified that none occurred and that Atwater suffered a loss of power because it is directly connected to the transformer outside of the Chateau.

The interior of the Chateau was not damaged, though trees adjacent to the electrical box were singed. No injuries were reported.

With additional reporting by Emily Singer



SOPHEAK CHHENG

Multiple fire engines responded to an electrical fire outside Chateau Dec. 18.

New Chicago Posse to help attract Chicago students

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

for guidance and support contributes to the success of the program.

"Having someone who is on the faculty to guide you through the tricky parts is really important," she said.

Affolter also noted the many ways that Posse Scholars contribute to the College with their "great ideas and unique experiences."

"[Posse] is just a collection of really strong, unique and creative people that only enrich the campus," she said.

Though other Posse partner cities were considered in the expansion, Chicago was chosen because of its geographic location, strong alumni connections and the desire to recruit more students from Chicago, the third largest public school system in the country.

"We've had such a successful relationship with Posse going back 14 years that we thought adding a second Posse made

great sense not only for the critical mass of talented Posse students it will bring to campus," President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz said, "but also because it establishes us in another major city and in the Midwest."

Collado added that hopefully with this expansion, "Middlebury will be better represented and integrated into Chicago public schools so that students from the Midwest will start looking to Middlebury as an opportunity."

According to Collado, the New York Posse have led to more students applying from New York public schools that historically did not generate a lot of applicants, a trend she hopes will be continued in Chicago schools.

With this expansion of the program, in four years there will be around 80 Posse scholars on campus, which, according to Collado, is "right in line with the strategic goals of the College."

CSE to help students engage global community

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

economics at the College and the CSE's faculty director.

"Alan has committed to get the center up and running," said Jon Isham. "That includes funding for us to give out grants to young people who are dedicated to living the life of a change maker."

Middlebury students will "certainly get their share" of the grants, Isham explained, but the funding — which ranges from \$200 for high school students to \$10,000 for recent college graduate — will be open to people from around the globe.

The CSE will cooperate with existing institutions, organizations and foundations both to attract qualified applicants for the grants and to ensure a successful system of support and accountability.

The center hopes to bring students to campus starting this June for training sessions, and additional means of communication — including Skype meetings — will be arranged in the future.

Neuwirth stressed the importance of having students learn from others who have completed projects, possibly via a database of past proposals.

"This is about experiencing and learning, but we also want to make a social impact and solve problems," she said. "The more connecting our grant recipients ... can do, the better."

Motivated students, however, will not be the only ones looking for money.

"We want this to be the best center [for social entrepreneurship] in the world," Doyle said. "And to do that we need to go out and raise a very substantial amount of money, and we have every intention of doing that."

Doyle, who currently lives in Connecticut, said he is planning to move his family to Vermont in the next few years to continue running the CSE.

"This project will have great appeal to foundations ... that have an interest in world peace [and] social causes," he said. "I don't see a whole lot of corporate sponsors" donating to the center.

Isham, who is teaching a Winter Term course called Social Entrepreneurship said he is confident that the CSE will be successful.

"If you look around ... [Middlebury has] a culture of trying things and things that matter," Isham said. "I think the center's presence ... will not only accelerate that trend over the coming years but will give Middlebury students access to the resources to make a difference. In some ways, it's another piece of this large puzzle of fulfilling our mission: coming to Middlebury to learn how to engage the world."



IAN STEWART
MCSE Associate Director for Operations and Development Heather Neuwirth '08 describes the brainstorming notes hanging from the walls of the MCSE office. The center is officially opening on January 25.

Four faculty members receive tenure

By Kelsey Collins

Four Middlebury faculty members were granted tenure by the Board of Trustees at its December meeting, following the recommendations made by President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz and the board's Educational Affairs Committee. The newly promoted professors are Assistant Professor of History Rebecca Bennette, Assistant Professor of Economics John Maluccio, Assistant Professor of Mathematics John Schmitt and Assistant Professor of Education Jonathan Miller-Lane.

Miller-Lane's promotion marks the first time an Education Studies professor has been granted tenure at Middlebury College. A member of the Education

Studies department since 2006, Miller-Lane earned his Bachelor's degree from Northwestern University in Middle Eastern History and African History. He went on to earn his M. Ed. at George Washington University and a Ph. D. in secondary education at the University of Washington in Seattle. In addition to teaching, Miller-Lane is an instructor of Aikido, a Japanese martial art. His academic research focuses around disagreement discussion and the role of Aikido in fostering facilitation skills.

Miller-Lane is joined by Assistant of History Rebecca Bennette, who joined the history department in 2005. She holds a bachelor's degree from Johns Hopkins University, as well as both her

master's degree and Ph.D. from Harvard University, and her work focuses on 19th and 20th century Germany History.

Assistant Professor of Economics John Maluccio has also been granted tenure. After earning his bachelor's degree from Amherst College, as well as his master of arts, master of philosophy and doctorate of philosophy degrees from Yale University, Maluccio served in the Peace Corps and worked as a research fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute in Washington D.C. before joining the Middlebury College economics department in 2005. His work focuses on the econometrics of developing countries, particularly within the health and education sectors.

The fourth faculty member to receive tenure was Assistant Professor of Mathematics John Schmitt. Schmitt earned his bachelor's degree from Providence College, a master's degree from the University of Vermont and a Ph. D from Emory University. A professor at Middlebury College since 2005, Schmitt specializes in combinatorics and game theory, and in 2008 he received the Middlebury Perkins Award for Excellence in Teaching.

During December's meeting, the Board of Trustees also promoted three faculty members to the rank of a full professor: Peter Nelson of the Geography department, Theodore Sisson of the International Studies department and Frank Swenton of the Mathematics department.

**Task Force on
Alcohol and
Social Life
on Campus**

We'd like to hear your ideas!

The Task Force on Alcohol and Social life and the SGA invite you to attend several winter term open forums. Come to any (or all) sessions!

Task Force Co-chairs

Bob Ritter Head Football Coach	Katy Smith Abbott, <i>Dean of Students</i> <i>Assistant Professor, History of Art and Architecture</i>
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The Role of Social Houses in Social Life on Campus Wednesday, January 11 7:30 p.m. Brackett House (Tavern)	First Year Social life Wednesday, January 25 7:30 p.m. Allen Hall Lounge
Party Registration Policies Wednesday, January 18 7:30 p.m. Hepburn Hall Lounge	Public Safety's Role on Campus Wednesday, February 1 7:30 p.m. Pearson Hall Lounge

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Sabai Sabai: Home Sweet and Sour Home

By Nora Fiore

All of the chanting and praying on the part of Midd kids have finally come to fruition: there's a Thai restaurant nearby. The news rings out joyously, but then the doubt creeps into my mind. Can the latest addition to our local cuisine scene actually be good, or is it just another crafty attempt to capitalize on our term-paper-fueled, inordinate appetites? Well, I gorged myself on three very extravagant courses and won't leave you in suspense. Sabai Sabai will delight the diner, on a number of levels.

The Place and the People

I arrive an hour before the evening opening to catch a quick interview, but already the staff have carefully orchestrated everything. The space of Sabai Sabai surprises me — complicated dividers and booths from ill-fated Doria's have disappeared, leaving a single high-ceilinged, columned room, with a dash of ballroom atmosphere. The restaurant offers a sense of freedom and lightness. Coral, orange, rose and other warm, tropical hues brighten the walls. A long wooden bar divides the space into two seating areas.

Tipsukol Baymanh, the manager, greets me at the door and ushers me to a table. She smiles ear-to-ear, like a mother overjoyed to see her child eating a hearty meal. Born in Thailand, Baymanh has a high opinion of Middlebury and an even higher opinion of her employer, Art Jilandharn, and his savoir-faire.

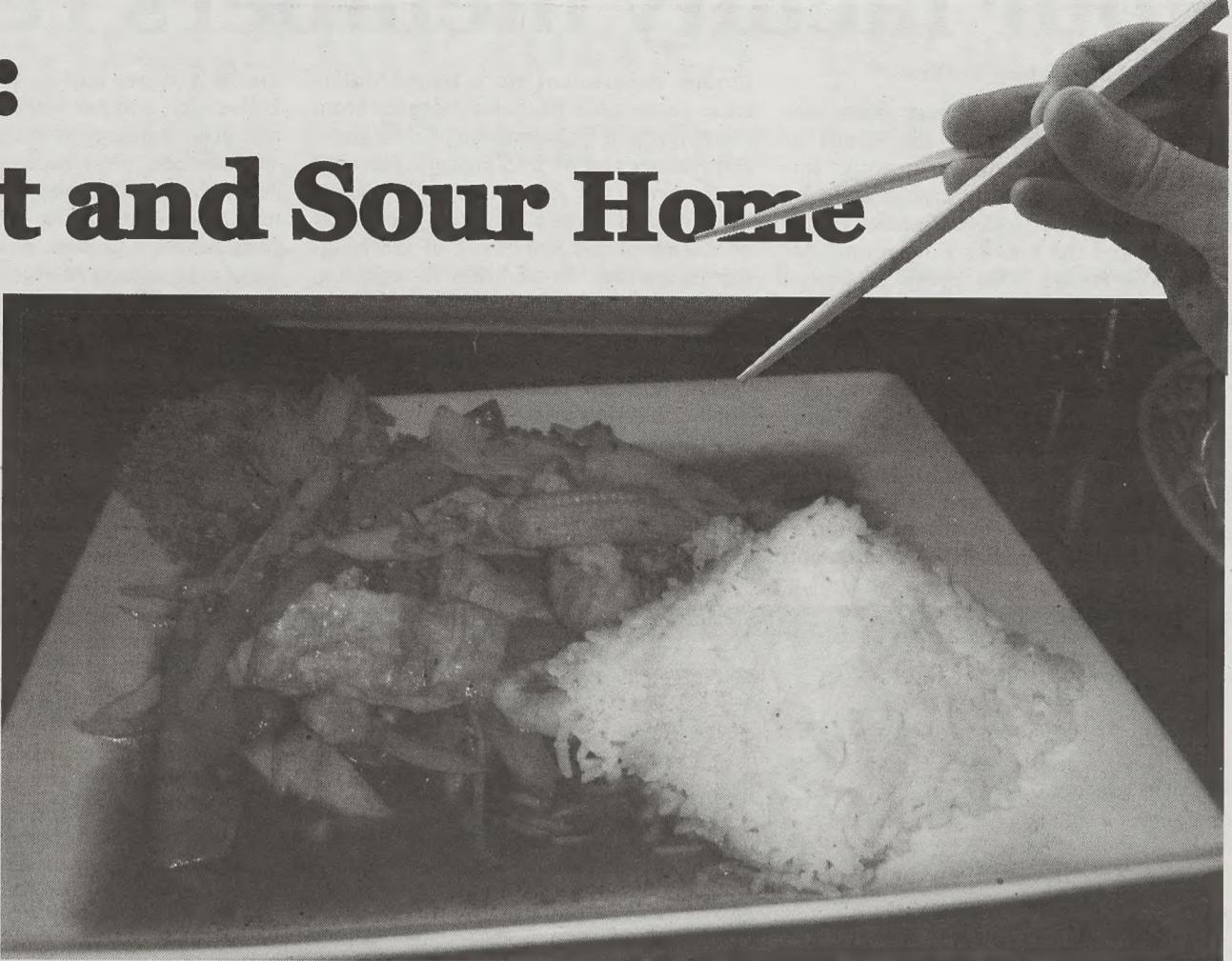
"The owner decorated the restaurant himself: it's a restaurant with two different styles," she said. "Over here, it's more traditional, with armchairs for families or long business meetings."

She has sat me in the seducing business section and I lean back and approve the choice. If you need to wine-and-dine a professor/potential boss, you have a new backdrop for your intrigues. "Over there, it's more modern, trendy with café chairs. For young people, dates, parties," continues Baymanh. Looking over, you can discern the luncheon tables, the party-of-four casual double date vibe. Blown-glass sconces and exotic chic carvings add to the hip ambiance. Art Jilandharn passes from one side to the other, making adjustments and readying the bar for dinner. Despite a generally gregarious demeanor, Jilandharn commands the authority of a general marshalling the troops. A consummate professional, he, along with his wife Claire, operates two other successful Thai restaurants in Vermont already. He pops over to say hi, shake my hand, and thank me for coming, but then he's back to task. "He travelled all over looking for a place for a new restaurant. The lending process took a while," recounts Baymanh. However, the lure of sharing Thai culture with the college town made it worth the wait and the effort of getting the restaurant on its feet. "It gives us a chance to bring our culture, our Asian culture, to the students," she said. "And for Asian students, we want to give you a taste of home. We like to make connections. We use fresh ingredients for an authentic Thai flavor, just like you'd have in Thailand. Only the presentation is somewhat Western," she notes.



The chicken satay comes in an artful tepee shape along with a divine peanut sauce.

Vermont ski resorts struggle in lieu of little snow
Page 7



The stir-fry ginger tofu provides a great option for vegetarians with a multitude of colorful veggies and a glistening jasmine rice pyramid.

Baymanh hopes in particular that Sabai Sabai will provide a fresh, fun setting for Middlebury milestones, in addition to casual lunches. "It would be really great to serve people for graduation," he said. "We're offering another option for a celebration, for your big day." I'm considering it. Without pushing the décor, Sabai Sabai vaunts a kind of escapist quality with its woven armchairs, minute carved mahogany accents, and pagoda-like windows. The place exhales a calm summer wind even in winter. Far from an accident, this mood translates out to a mission statement.

"With our service and atmosphere, we've tried to make it feel like a home," she said. "In Thai, Sabai Sabai means 'relaxing' or 'feels comfortable.' It's about being welcoming."

Indeed, unlike the cozy but occasionally rowdy Two Brothers and the refined formality of Swift House, Sabai Sabai manages to balance a loft-like sophistication with a much-needed dose of serenity. Bring your date here if you want to have a flirty conversation that you can hear without feeling obliged to whisper. The owners ooze gratitude for the opportunity to partake in the town.

"We want to thank Middlebury for the warm welcome," Baymanh said. "We hope that you will continue to visit us in the long-term. We're very happy that you've taken us into your community."

She holds her hands together in front of her, a gesture of touching sincerity. This is a place that takes hospitality to heart.

The Food

I return for dinner, but already a few couples have their tables and wait for their food. Baymanh shows me to my table with a sliver version of her smile, as if she can't wait for the show to start. I could order off of the extensive sushi menu, with all manner of rolls a person could desire, but I decide to stick with the Thai, since the staff seems so proud of their cultural flavor. In case you're worried about the food's spice factor, I have good news. Although certain dishes give off a tantalizing chili tingle that you expect from this famously piquant cuisine, nothing will send you gulping down the water with steam running out of your ears — a proper meal should not remind you of a dare to take another bite.

"If it's too spicy, too hot, you can't taste it!" Baymanh passionately insists.

Instead, the flavors at Sabai Sabai reminded me of a good mystery story, nuanced, engaging, and always keeping you on your toes. Layer after layer of tastes emerged with the ingredients. If you're the sort of person who eschews salad as a boring, space-hogging item in your stomach, I defy you to have your opinion revised by the Sabai Sabai salad, almost a meal in and of itself. Fresh greens and vegetables, a sliced egg, tofu, all topped with a delectable house sauce. The dressing does not fail to impress with its roasted peanut base, enlivened with coconut, honey, curry, chili, and ginger notes, all vying for your tongue's attention. I'm craving it right now.

The sweet-and-sour sauce — another stand-out sauce, served out of a shot glass and tempting you to chug — arrived wedged to the fresh rolls of tofu and greens, wrapped in unfried rice paper. Unlike the goopy, highly caloric, nightmare condiments that usually associated with "sweet-and-sour," this one surprises with its light, refreshing vin-

aigrette style. Cooled with a fresh mint leaf and grounded by some chopped peanuts that swirl when I dip my rolls, the sauce sophisticatedly remixes the sweet and sour concept. And we're still on appetizers, mind you.

My third foray into the appetizer menu, the Satay chicken, comes in a glowing golden-yellow cumin hue that puts the mark of authenticity on the dish — anyone can grill chicken, but the marinade makes or breaks it. Two terrific sauces, a cucumber and the traditional peanut, come with it.

Boneless as promised, the Tamarind duck arrives with a perfect pyramid of white jasmine rice on the side. This geometric choice characterizes the attention to detail, from the artisanal paper menus to the funky Thailand-shaped clock, that sets this restaurant apart.

But I digress: the duck. Crispy and crunchy skin and tender meat all discreetly topped with a fruity sweet Tamarind sauce that the chef deepened with lemongrass and ginger aromas. Snappy snow peas and broccoli round off the meal. It's not the cheapest item on the menu, but well worth it if you long for some succulent, delicately seasoned poultry in a town dominated by burgers and pasta dishes. I also sampled the stir-fried ginger tofu for my vegetarian friends and may assure you that the colorful bell peppers, woodsy mushrooms, and stimulating shredded ginger satisfied even this dedicated carnivore. I didn't get a curry, but a Midd kid at another table did. If I hadn't been already unbuttoning my top winter layer for more gut-expansion room, I might have snagged it.

But dessert beckoned.

A small dish of creamy coconut custard, touched up with sweet spices, sits beside a small cylinder of dark rice. Savory and chewy, the black sticky rice abandons the sugary starchiness of other rice deserts in favor of a roasted, rich grain perked up by a small pool of warm toasted sesame coconut milk. "Authentic flavor" as a restaurant catchphrase has been thrown around by many, but for Sabai Sabai, the realness of the taste constitutes much more than a banal marketing gimmick. I asked a few questions about the cooking process and received detailed accounts of multi-step recipes that, alas, my feeble brain could not hoard but which listed many distillations of spices, herbs, stocks, and vegetables. Every dish looked great and worked hard to create an intriguing, subtle flavor profile.

If you think I'm exaggerating, try it out for yourself. But for the love of all things yummy and romantic, invite that obsessive crush of yours and get a New Year's resolution out of the way. You'll feel right at home.



Coconut custard with sweet spice accompanied with a sushi-roll style rice dish were the perfect finish.

LOCAL LOWDOWN **24**

Met Opera "Live in HD"

Met Opera "Live in HD" in Middlebury. The Enchanted Island, starring Joyce DiDonato, Placido Domingo and David Daniels, will broadcast live on the Town Hall Theater big screen. It premiered at the Metropolitan Opera in December 2011. Tickets \$24/\$10 students, available at the THT box office, 382-9222 or www.townhalltheater.org.

JAN. 21, 1 P.M. – 4:35 P.M.

One-Man Comedy Circus

Ever been to a circus performance of just one man dressed in suspenders and a hard hat? Now's your chance! Drive up to Vergennes this Saturday night for world-renowned comedian Brent McCoy's "Comedy That Works." The all-ages show will include audience participation. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for kids, available for purchase online at www.vergennesoperahouse.org.

JAN. 21, 7 P.M. – 9 P.M.

Sheesham and Lotus Concert

Join Sheesham Crow and Lotus Wight, a bluegrass duo from Ontario, for a concert at the WalkOver Gallery in Bristol. The pair uses a variety of instruments, from a banjo and fiddle to spoons and clogging. Tickets are \$15 and are available online at walkover@macc.com or by calling 802-453-3188.

JAN. 21, 7:30 P.M.–9:30 P.M.

The Horse Traders Breast Cancer Benefit Show

Want to enjoy some local music? Then walk down to Two Brothers Tavern on Saturday for the 4th Annual "Face Off Against Breast Cancer" Benefit Show and listen to the Horse Traders, a five-piece band from Weybridge who cover a wide range of hits. The \$3 cover and 10 percent of the food and drink sales go to Cancer Patient Support Group, so support a good cause while you jam!

JAN. 21, 9 P.M. – 12 A.M.

Trivial Pursuit

This Monday head down to the lounge at Two Brothers Tavern with your three sharpest buddies to play some trivia in an event supporting H.O.P.E. This 3rd annual fundraiser will have prizes for both rounds, and a grand finale prize. 10 percent of all food and drinks will also go towards the event. What better way to make a difference than by showing off your I.Q.?

JAN. 23, 7 P.M. – 8 P.M.

Presentation on local fish species in Salisbury

Salisbury Community School Shawn Good, a fisheries biologist for Vermont Fish and Wildlife, will give a presentation on natural history, conservation, and management of fish species found in Lake Dunmore and other local areas. Free. Presented by the Salisbury Conservation Commission.

JAN. 24, 7 P.M. – 9 P.M.

Low snowfall hurts ski areas

By Molly Talbert

It doesn't take a ski bum to notice that the snow hasn't been good this year. Nevertheless, this is not a death sentence for skiers. Despite the warm temperatures there is snow at most resorts and high hopes for more snow to come.

"We only make snow on about 15 percent of our mountain, so natural snow is our bread and butter," said Jamey Wimble, President and General Manager of Mad River Glen. "Even snowmaking temperatures have been a challenge this season. It can turn around and we can recover some but we are most likely looking at a break-even year at best."

Hardy Merrill '94, chief administrative officer for Sugarbush, agrees.

"It has definitely been a less favorable year [for ski areas] in terms of weather and public perception," he said.

According to Merrill, it is public perception and negative news about snow conditions that have been the most difficult for the ski industry in this part of Vermont rather than the weather.

Relatively speaking, Sugarbush has "been pretty fortunate with natural snowfall compared to most of the northeast," said Merrill. "Dec. 28 we got over a foot of snow, which was the only really material snow in the northeast."

Both the College Snow Bowl and Mad River Glen also received snow from the Dec. 28 storm. Unfortunately, this storm was a few days too late and ticket sales were down

during the holiday season.

"We only did 30 percent of budget revenue on the holiday week and have been closed all but 5 days [as of Jan 12]. There are 50 plus full-time employees that have had little or no work thus far this season," said Wimble.

The Snow Bowl too has struggled, but not as much as Mad River Glen.

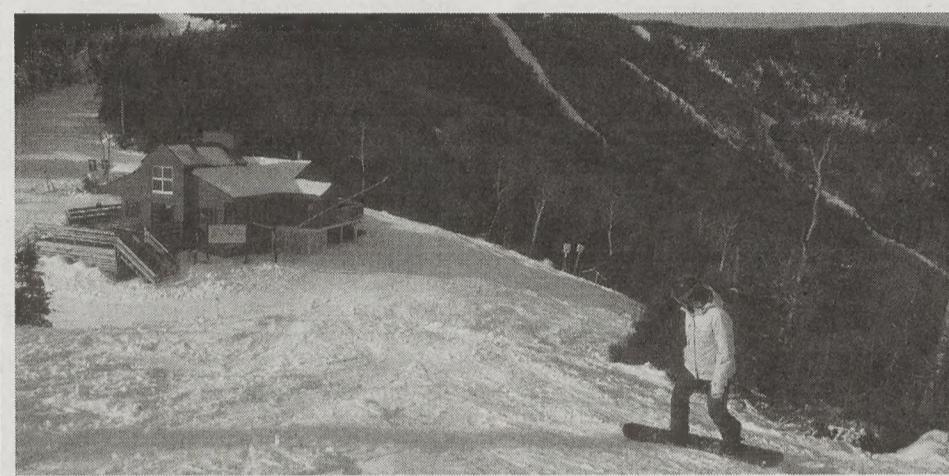
"The Snow Bowl ticket income is very dependent on season pass sales to mostly local residents and Middlebury students, faculty and staff which, historically, have changed very little over the past several years," explained Peter Mackey, manager of the Snow Bowl.

"Christmas week is important to day ticket sales, lessons, rentals and ski shop sales. Our day ticket business was off because of limited terrain being open as were private lesson numbers. Enrollment in the holiday lesson program was good, and the ski shop business was down, but only slightly," Mackey continued.

"There is greater risk of [having cancellations] when you're a drive-to resort rather than a fly-to resort," said Merrill, referring to the mode of transportation of many of their customers.

Unlike many resorts in the west where east coast skiers fly to, it is easier to cancel a reservation when a family is driving from Boston to Vermont if the snow seems bad.

That is why Eric Friedman, marketing director of Mad River Glen, encourages the students at the College to "stop studying and go skiing" this Winter Term.



COURTESY: SUGARBUSH

A snowboarder glides down a slope at Sugarbush ski resort in Mad River Valley, Vt. Low snowfalls have left Vermont ski areas scrambling.

Retired alumni flock to Middlebury area

By Kaylen Baker

When you've found yourself people-watching at a public place in Middlebury, you've probably thought at first glance that Middlebury holds a great variety of people in its shaded valley.

But, perhaps you haven't noticed the great number of elderly in Middlebury, since they tend to be active, engaged community members, which keeps them young and sprightly.

Involvement is the very reason many of the Baby Boomer generation (and parents of the Baby Boomer generation) have begun to move to small college towns for retirement. Middlebury in particular fits the bill.

"In a small college town it's easy for them to get around and easy to get engaged in the community. Their contribution is palpable," said Associate Professor of Geography Peter Nelson, who specializes in population growth and aging Baby Boomers,

But the college itself plays a greater role than the size of the town in tempting seniors who are looking to settle down permanently. Many extracurricular activities offered to students are also available to the public. What are some of the benefits of living close to the college?

"Too many to count," answered Charles Robinson, a partially-retired rehabilitation consultant living in Middlebury. He and his wife, Heather Robinson, a retired insurance agent, moved to town in June of 2010.

As the main benefits of living in Middlebury, Charles listed "sports and cultural events, senior activities, contact with the students, access to two great libraries, and the fitness center."

"More specifically, we have two students through the ISSS [International Scholar Services] program," he said. "We attend football, basketball, and hockey games most often, use the college library for access to wide range of journals, work on college reunion committees, attend plays, go to college movie series, and visit the art center."

Providing a second home of sorts for two international students through the ISSS program involves inviting the students to dinner at their house and short trips to visit the Robinsons' children and grandchildren as well. This involvement

keeps the Robinsons in constant interaction with college students.

"As 70-year-olds we enjoy the proximity and stimulation of young people," said Charles. "Auditing courses is great."

Heather has audited five courses so far, finding the faculty very welcoming, while Charles engages with former faculty and staff through a bridge club.

The mountains of Vermont entice a certain type of retiree who misses the flaming red and orange autumn leaves of their college years.

"These are what we call the 'footloose elderly,'" explained Nelson, "People who want to move to the country when they retire, who didn't simply grow up there and stay."

The majority of retirees moving to Middlebury already have some sort of connection to the town through the college, either as alumni or relatives of alumni. Charles graduated with the class of 1956 while Heather graduated with the class of 1957. But they didn't even think about moving back until they ended up visiting Middlebury many years later.

"We came back here with family for our 50th wedding anniversary and said, 'this is the place to retire,'" said Charles.

Many people who attend the Congregational Church are retired alumni as well. Like the Robinsons, they like getting involved with the town and making a difference for other people in the community.

Many retired alumni are greatly involved with the Middlebury Community Care Coalition. A retiree started one of their programs, the Charter House, which provides temporary housing for the homeless. At community lunches and suppers, volunteers take part in making 200 meals a week. The current president and housing programs director is Doug Sinclair, now living in Ripton, VT, who's son attended the college.

Other retirees support the cultural life of the town by attending events at the Town Hall Theater on weekends, as opposed to watching football at home, as the younger generations tend to do for pleasure.

The upside of all this involvement is a boost in Middlebury's economy, according to Nelson. Retirees have already received social security and have had time to accumulate wealth, while working people are



COURTESY: CHARLES ROBINSON

Charles and Heather Robinson, lower center, are active members of the Middlebury community.

paying for social security and need to save money for retirement.

"For someone like myself, most of my income comes from the workplace and some gets invested in global markets for retirement," said Nelson. "A retiree who moves to Middlebury brings money into the community. New money that flows into Middlebury is created from their expenditures."

Because of the large retired population, Middlebury has amenity-based development, making the town even more attractive to growth, instead of attractive to business. The downside is that there has become an inequity in the housing market. Elderly coming from cities like Boston and New York City can afford half-million dollar homes, while working professors, for example, cannot compete.

As a counterbalance, a new retirement home called East View is being built in Middlebury for senior citizens, who can still enjoy the benefits of the college town, while receiving as much assisted care as they wish.

There's no question about it — the median age in Vermont is increasing, and Middlebury has become a well-tended community. From their perspective, pertaining to the downsides of living so close to students, Charles affirmed, "I haven't found any yet."

OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

"A forum for free communication"

Over winter break, in a concerted effort to increase the diversity of this campus, the administration announced the addition of a new class of Posse Scholars from Chicago.

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* as decided by the editorial board. We are delighted to welcome them into the Class of 2016 and applaud President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz and the College's decision. But though we lend our full-throated support

to the administration for its ongoing commitment to making Middlebury a more diverse community, bringing in these new perspectives is simply not enough. In fact, in isolation, it may prove to be an entirely unfair act.

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If Middlebury wants to continue to brand itself as a diverse institution — attracting students of all backgrounds under those pretenses — it must also provide this incoming student body with a forum for open dialogue and discourse. Diversity of background and of perspective does little unless we engage with it.

This theme was also present in our last editorial before break, which addressed accusations of institutional racism at the College ("Race and Gossip," Dec. 8). Then, we voiced the need for this type of free conversation and put out a call to the student body to consider the most appropriate forum through which to do so. It turns out that JusTalks, a student initiative already in the process of gaining support across campus, has just the answer we were looking for.

The group calls for "an increase in campus confrontational dialogue, discourse, and leadership training because we believe such student engagement would enrich Middlebury's education, and demonstrate its commitment to developing true global citizens." They imagine JusTalks as "a forum dedicated to free communication, to thoughtful discourse, to supportive self-analysis, to leaning into discomfort, and to dynamic community building."

Though much of the actual logistics are unspecified, what JusTalks envisions is that this time next year, first-years, as an extension of orientation, will be taking advantage of the free hours Winter Term gifts us to do exactly what its name suggests: talk. And to do so

before friend groups and "Middlebury selves" have begun to solidify. They hope to foster a series of conversations about identity — think race, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, gender, faith ... — and privilege that compel the students to simply consider why it is they think the things that they do. The program is not asking anyone to change. You are not required to share, and if your personal beliefs are reaffirmed, that is entirely your right. The goal is to offer a forum where there is no hierarchy of perspective — one that ideally includes students, faculty and staff, and catalyzes future debate or introspection.

The reality is that the constant business of Middlebury is not conducive to deeper, sometimes uncomfortable, conversations. We are not likely to initiate a back and forth about identity over lunch when class starts in 35 minutes and that research paper is weighing on your mind. And when meals are our only free time all day to catch up with friends, we are unlikely to engage a stranger. But these conversations are the way in which understanding and real empathy come about. And sometimes it only takes one story to remind us that these people with whom we live for four years have the potential to do more for our "global citizenship" than any academic text.

So even though some of us may cringe at the idea of any kind of mandatory College activity — especially one that encourages sharing our personal stories — a couple of isolated hours is a very small price to pay for even the possibility that you may come

to understand yourself and your community just a little more fully. Surely there are few upperclassmen, who, looking back, would not have appreciated the chance to stumble onto an important belief or part of themselves that could have helped guide their decisions and interactions here so early on.

And we at the *Campus* feel that it is a small sacrifice to make for the power of the message that it sends. By mandating these conversations, the College would be making an important statement about its values as an institution. In coming to Middlebury, we have entered into a social contract with the school and its values — one that requires us to respect not only physical property, but also our fellow student, faculty and staff members. These conversations, if nothing else, would help us hold up our half of the bargain.

The rest of JusTalks is still undecided, and the team of 20 or so students working on this initiative hope to keep it that way for a little while longer. Because the goal is to create a forum that feels inclusive for every first-year, the JusTalks team has been going around talking to and asking for endorsements from all of the student organizations, publications, social houses and sports teams that are willing to take the time. Many of you may have already heard their pitch. But for those of you who have not, we urge you to listen carefully, and in the spirit of what is trying to be achieved here, really talk about it. Whatever you decide, personally or as a group, we know that JusTalks would love to hear about it.

What is not being said

To the Editor:

Several newspaper articles have juxtaposed Professor of Political Science Kateri Carmola's "no contest" plea to the charge of taking \$4,800 from the Salisbury Historical Society and her 18-month deferred sentence with her subsequent resignation from Middlebury College in a way that suggests she herself feels she can no longer serve in her academic capacity.

Though the College and Dr. Carmola are apparently committed to silence, it is revealing to note what they say and do not say. Dr. Carmola says neither that she feels incapable of continuing in her position, nor that the College has stood by her in a difficult time. The College does not say that it values her contributions and is sorry to see her go. In a Nov. 28 *Burlington Free Press* story, a College spokeswoman says only that Dr. Carmola's spring courses will be covered. A colleague

laments Dr. Carmola's "stupidity" and prophesies that it will be very difficult for her to "go forward academically." Such a harsh pronouncement seems unwarranted.

Certainly there are misdeeds specific to academic institutions that should bar the perpetrator from further employment. These generally involve intellectual dishonesty, behavioral improprieties with colleagues or students or misappropriation of institutional funds. But

there are no accusations of this nature against Dr. Carmola. Does one bad lapse of judgment in a totally different setting mean that she should no longer teach or do research? Don't we believe in this country that people can learn from their mistakes and go on to make valuable contributions? We are not making light of Dr. Carmola's actions, but sincerely questioning whether wrongfully taking a relatively small sum of money (returned before the involvement of law enforcement) and accepting the court-imposed sanctions (for an offense which will be expunged from her record) should end a productive career at an institution which was not a party to this incident and which Dr. Carmola served well with years of highly acclaimed work. Should this uninvolved institution exact or accept a far heavier penalty than the state has levied? Isn't this overkill and equivalent to double jeopardy?

If Dr. Carmola felt morally compelled to resign (which she has not said and which we do not believe), we would say she was being too hard on herself and on her students, who — knowing all the facts — still admire and respect her and eagerly enroll in her classes. If she was forced to resign through secret administrative maneuverings, we would say shame on Middlebury College for mean-spirited, vengeful behavior below the surface of its humane, fair-minded, compassionate public image. We may never learn the truth, but surely the press, the College and the public should be asking whether justice has been served.

Sincerely,
Michael and Judy Olinick

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Michael Olinick is a Professor of Mathematics and Judy Olinick is the Coordinator of the Russian, German and Japanese Studies Departments.

laments Dr. Carmola's "stupidity" and prophesies that it will be very difficult for her to "go forward academically." Such a harsh pronouncement seems unwarranted.

Certainly there are misdeeds specific to academic institutions that should bar the perpetrator from further employment. These generally involve intellectual dishonesty, behavioral improprieties with colleagues or students or misappropriation of institutional funds. But

week in tweets

middtwitt middtwitt
@middtwitt Middlebury, VT
<http://www.middlebury.edu>

Tweets Favorites Following Followers Lists

middtwitt middtwitt
just indulged in a black forest magic mountain bar... pretty sure that's also where gandalf hails from?

middtwitt middtwitt
maybe ill find a hot young smart sensitive visiting professor to have an affair with! #jtermdelusions

middtwitt middtwitt
now that it's jterm and still nothing magical has happened, officially developing unhealthy expectations for the incoming feb class of 2015.5!

middtwitt middtwitt
am i really willing to sacrifice the prospect of ever hooking up with anyone in order to never have to clean my room?

middtwitt middtwitt
pissed it's snowing enough that i might have to go xc skiing with my overly ambitious friend when she comes to visit this weekend

middtwitt middtwitt
pretty sure i struck the perfect goofy-sultry balance at the bar tonight!! #thursdaynightdelusions

middtwitt middtwitt
open emails sent from my commons #shitptoavoid-mythesis

middtwitt middtwitt
can't remember if the CTLR offers me a peer edit on my paper or a four dollar ride to burlington

middtwitt middtwitt
tumblr idea: sexual fantasy or grille menu item???

middtwitt middtwitt
not sure whether to participate in the intramural sport im good at but that my crush hates or the one my crush plays that i totally suck at

middtwitt middtwitt
asking my friend "is the party fun?" when really i mean "is there anyone there i could maybe potentially at all hook up with?!?!"

Products for a man's man who isn't ashamed to get a mani-pedi

So, if you've ever tried to apply slightly pink-tinted balm to a boyfriend's sleeping mouth, obviously with the totally selfless objective of ridding him of his desperately, verging-on-clownish, cracked-like-Death-Valley chapped lips, you know that upon waking, this boyfriend will be less than chuffed and will threaten to shave one of your eyebrows plum off. "But it's medicated!" you might cry

out in your own defense, "Hertie's Hornets is unisex! My male dentist recommended it to my male father!" But it will have been simply

too little too late. If your boyfriend is anything like my imaginary boyfriend (the one in this scenario — the real one has luscious, hydrated *lèvres*), he will be too offended, too emasculated and too thoroughly made-up to get over this blatant reference to his much too high levels of the artist formerly known as estrogen.

My imaginary boyfriend's lack of certain stereotypically girly necessities has resulted in a somewhat strained relationship. For instance, his apartment is painted brown which reminds me and everyone else of poop. Also, his restroom smells like poop. Also, his nails are the undesirable color of "flesh." Also, his clothes are crinkled like crinkle fries and he refuses to drink my peppermint tea, opting for a virile cup of boiling water. Finally, when I stay the evening (dressed in a nighty buttoned up to my chin and down to my cankles), I often wake in the morn, famished, as one tends to be after a night's rest, and all he has to offer me for nosh are some boar sausage links and a bottle of whole milk.

Thus, I embarked upon some Internet researching to find the cure to what ailed me and my boy toy and, luckily, I found some things promising to bring about the salvation of me and mine and you and yours. *Ms. Magazine's* blog assembled some products most usually used by women that marketers hope to turn onto the male consumer. These things, I think, might transform any bachelor's pad into an image of warmth and hospitality. Firstly, CIL Paints, a Canadian paint company sold at Home Depot offers less wimpy

colors than your usual paint guy might have in his van. Instead of color chips like Pansy Violet and Plum Escape, you can offer your man options like Sucker Punch, Beer Foam and Razor Burn, which is just the brightest pink like the pink that appears when I've slapped my hand across imaginary BF's raw face. So! Consider Poop Brown retired and Duct Tape in the game.

Let's move to the pungent restroom. Has your imaginary male mate pitched the lavender-scented Glade Plug-In that you thoughtfully picked up from Maplefield's for \$EIGHT SEVENTY NINE? Lucky for you, the wizards at British candle company, Canova, have fashioned scents like Nutmeg & Ginger with A Splash of Motor Oil, and Cassis & Fig with Added Danger. An instant ego-booster and smell-terminator! Moving onto personal care — fleshy, gangrenous nails? Alphanail has launched an ad campaign that is literally dripping with the worst kind of temporary-tattooed sex, reading that their lacquer is "DESIGNED FOR MEN. WORN BY

WARRIORS," and if that doesn't convince you, their number two reason is: "SEX. GET MORE OF IT." I guess that's settled. Boys, do you hear that? Nail polish is the new calf implant!

Now, let's get serious. Phillips has released a "robust power tool" for ... ironing! Described as an "Anodilium soleplate man iron," the sleek power tool is capable of "more power, more steam, more performance" to give you "an endless excellent gliding experience." Now if only we could get that in the bedroom — am I right ladies?!?! Speaking of which, you can buy tea bags that are shaped like testicles at ManTeas.com. Finally, this chica is slimming down thanks to the elimination of boar sausage from her diet DOUBLE thanks to TESCO CHUNKY MUESLI CEREAL FOR MEN. It looks like it was taken from a construction site, and what is more masculine and indicative of virility than manual labor? Nothing save impregnating me with only a look!

So fellas and fellitas, rejoice, for even men can now curl up on a rainy Sunday afternoon with a steaming cup of bacon tea and a few pigs skin and grease-scented candles lined on the mantle without second-thought. Life truly is beautiful!

THAT THING DOWN THERE

Joanna Rothkopf '12 is from Washington, D.C.

Finally, this chica is slimming down thanks to the elimination of boar sausage from her diet DOUBLE thanks to TESCO CHUNKY MUESLI CEREAL FOR MEN.

soleplate man iron," the sleek power tool is capable of "more power, more steam, more performance" to give you "an endless excellent gliding experience." Now if only we could get that in the bedroom — am I right ladies?!?! Speaking of which, you can buy tea bags that are shaped like testicles at ManTeas.com. Finally, this chica is slimming down thanks to the elimination of boar sausage from her diet DOUBLE thanks to TESCO CHUNKY MUESLI CEREAL FOR MEN. It looks like it was taken from a construction site, and what is more masculine and indicative of virility than manual labor? Nothing save impregnating me with only a look!

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Gingrich's dangerous plans for the Supreme Court

As 2012 begins, people around the world are making resolutions for how they can better improve their own — and others' — lives. Newt Gingrich, GOP presidential hopeful, is no exception. For him, though, the way he believes he can improve Americans' lives is by doing something that would, potentially, ruin many: exert congressional and executive control over the Supreme Court.

It is true that the Court has a vast amount of power in modern America, and the decisions made by nine people have far-reaching impacts on millions of Americans. Thus, many worry about the power of the Court in relation to how much influence it was originally intended to have. Gingrich's proposed solution, though, does nothing to improve the situation.

Gingrich voiced his opinions about the Supreme Court during the televised debate in Sioux City, Iowa on Dec. 15. At one point in the debate, Fox News anchor Megyn Kelly questioned Gingrich on his stance on the Court. Gingrich, claiming basis for his views on historical precedent, said that he would be "prepared to take on the judiciary if ... it did not restrict itself from what it was doing."

Gingrich isn't talking about constitutionally provided methods of "tak[ing] on the judiciary," though. His proposed plan allows justices to be held publicly accountable for their decisions, meaning that they could be subpoenaed before Congress to explain why they made a particular decision.

According to Article III, Section 1 of the constitution, all justices "shall hold their offices during good behavior." Essentially, this means that no justice can be removed from office because of a controversial opinion; in fact, they can't be removed from office unless they commit "treason, bribery or high crimes and misdemeanors."

For Gingrich, activist judges who overstep their boundaries are committing just that — high crimes and misdemeanors. Thus, he believes their authority, when they've made "bad" decisions, can and should be questioned. This is problematic, though, because it completely oversteps boundaries mandated by separation of powers.

American government functions because this separation exists. When the president makes a controversial decision, he or she cannot be hauled

before the Supreme Court or the Congress (unless being impeached) to account for those actions. Each branch has duties to fill, and complicating their functions — and, under Gingrich's plan, creating new powers over one another — does not better serve Americans.

Additionally, the subjectivity inherent in the plan would, likely, create witch-hunts. Because the Court decides on controversial issues, and because those issues are polarizing, justices could be called before congress to account for almost any decision, because there is no clear bright line for when the Court is adequately "restricting itself," as Gingrich desires.

In essence, it is not a justice's job to sit in congressional sessions explaining his or her decisions. It is, however, a justice's job to make decisions on cases, free from external threat of removal or retaliation from the other two branches of government.

Gingrich, though, believes that he is in good company in his plan. During the debate, Gingrich cited Jefferson, Jackson, Lincoln and Franklin Roosevelt as former presidents who have taken on the judiciary.

Congresses under Jefferson and Roosevelt both changed the number of justices on the Court, and Lincoln and Jackson both failed to enforce rulings made (Dred Scott v. Sanford and Worcester v. Georgia, respectively).

While, if true, those would make strong allies, his statements aren't entirely accurate. Constitutionally, it is already within Congress's power to change the number of justices on the Court, so these are not examples of "tak[ing] on the judiciary." Additionally, each president cited did challenge the power of the judiciary in some way, but nothing that they did created new checks and balances in the government, nor did it interfere with separation of powers.

Gingrich's proposal is not only unconstitutional, but it is also ill-advised and, potentially, dangerous. In it, he attempts to correct a problem with the Court — its increased power and influence — by creating an even larger problem: a muddling of the separation of powers.

FROM THE BENCH

Kelsi Morgan '14 is from Owasso, Okla.

Middlebury: Renaissance men and women

Ever been to a Middlebury College sporting event? Of course you have. Whether you went to see your friend on the team, that smokeshow in your Economics class or to actually see the sport itself and support your athletically gifted classmates, chances are that pretty much everyone on campus has attended a game of some sort, and most do so with

some frequency. Now, have you ever been to an a cappella concert? What about an improv show, or one of the

musical performances that frequent places like 51 Main? Surprisingly, the answer is pretty similar: of course. Here at Midd, students are as dialed in to the a cappella scene, the acting scene and whatever other alternative activities you could think of as they are to the sports scene (people even read newspapers?!). We all know how serious the sports scene is at our prestigious institution. To make

a sports team, any team, is a humongous deal. Walk onto the soccer team, and you might as well have invented Facebook — you're a campus celebrity, with people shaking your hand telling you how well you represent the campus, how DOPE of an athlete you must be, offering to name their babies after you. Thing is, "walking on" to a group like Dissipated 8, or joining Otter Nonsense, is just as big of a deal. People you haven't seen since Orientation walk up to you in Ross and tell you you're the man (your response? "Thanks, uh ... David, right?").

This isn't just a coincidence. The application process for some of these groups is just as competitive as a sports team. I have friends who, as sophomores, decided they wanted to try out for the Mamajamas. They trained, memorized songs and avoided milk for days (a tall order considering the ridiculously perfect combination of milk and chocolate served in our dining halls). When they got to the audition, the waiting room was packed.

They sat down, preparing to be seen in the next half hour or so. After two hours of waiting, they were forced to give up because, it being 10 p.m., they needed to start making a dent on their respective piles of homework. A friend of mine went to five different a cappella tryouts last year, trying everything from beatboxing to singing Taylor Swift to offering foot massages, only to receive a grand total of zero callbacks. The point is that at Midd, our a cappella tryouts are almost prohibitively competitive — they're that legit.

Compare that to a school like the University of Oklahoma. At OU, there are four people in the a cappella scene, and three of them are on the losing end of a little game the football team calls "do my homework or eat a knuckle sandwich." At the same time, every football game has been sold out since Jesus was a teenager.

In the 1950s, the president of OU appeared before the Oklahoma state legislature to request more funds. After

he made his pitch the legislators began grilling him on his University's academic minutiae. After each question, the president grew more and more confused. Finally, a bewildered look on his face, he stopped them. "You've got it all wrong with these questions," he said. "My job is to create an institution that the football team can be proud of."

At Middlebury, we truly have an a cappella squad the lacrosse team can be proud of. The number of one-dimensional football meatheads, lacrosse bros, Computer Science geeks and singularly focused students on campus is rapidly approaching the number of people who thought Tebow could win a playoff game (zip). Middlebury's liberal arts focus attracts multidimensional people, proverbial Renaissance men and women whose interests are as varied as the Vermont weather reports.

Extracurriculars have become the sine qua non of Middlebury's student body; they fundamentally define us.

RED'S RANT

Caleb Cunningham

'14 is from Denver, Colo.

A commitment to the uncomfortable conversation

An open break-up letter

To the institution that is Middlebury College,

I came to you from a high school that, in the face of lofty goals of communitarian compassion, radical inclusion and diversity of perspective, failed to be anything more than a privileged place of classroom learning. It was a place too captivated by its own elite status to pursue higher ethical standards for its students or faculty; too nearsighted to understand that amassing some of the brightest and most experienced is only a step toward building community.

I came to you purporting that I would not make the same mistake twice.

I came to you claiming awareness of institutional hypocrisy; of the ability for reputation to undermine the pursuit of inclusion and community.

I came to you believing that you were better — different.

I was wrong.

For despite what you may say, Middlebury, you do not build a cohesive community. You espouse the same notions of interconnectedness and social

learning and recruit the same diversity, but you have no interest in change that may actually tackle obstacles that lie on the road to their realization or inclusion; that may admit the existence of social fracture, psychological deviance, disgraceful privilege or institutionalized racism or classism.

Surely you educate; you have brought astonishingly bright professors and students together in amazing facilities across a gorgeous campus. You have populated my surroundings with diversity of worldview, introduced me to new ideas, practices, paradigms. But I see now that these individuals that have shown me new horizons and challenged all I previously saw are strongholds of complexity borne of a pursuit of an image that is paraded around the world but dishonoured at home. They are generous individuals who have shared themselves despite lack of institutional support; object lessons in tenacious resistance to the marginalization you perpetuate.

Middlebury, you bring students here from perversely underserved communities and show them a world in which it is acceptable to destroy property and dehumanize those tasked with cleaning the mess. You bring women here from across the globe and do not express intolerance for gender-based violence. You encourage racial diversity but fail to challenge the biases and bigotries with which people arrive; deny the need to build cohesion between often homogenous communities that have formed under the false banner of one. You tout the financial aid you supply and create a culture of unworthiness for recipients by requiring greater effort to access resources others have at their fingertips. You hire brilliant professors and fail to hold them accountable for their frequent lack of sensitivity toward different perspectives and backgrounds.

You make racist, classist and sexist behaviour acceptable. You do not educate with compassion but with cold, academic calculation, leaving diversity exploited and abandoned at the doorstep of your "community." You make clear that you are an institution designed and preserved for white people of privilege — many of us are "in" this

society but not "of" it. Dr. King once wrote that "lukewarm acceptance is much more bewildering than outright rejection." I write to you today in bewilderment.

I am in pursuit of self-critical institutions that work in conscious resistance to triumphing notions of control and subjugation; that do not rest complacent in replacing overt, visceral discrimination with the subtle but damaging microaggressions ("brief and commonplace daily, verbal, behavioral or environmental indignities, whether intentional or unintentional, that communicate hostile, derogatory or negative slights and insults toward people of varying identities") many of us perpetuate. Indeed you claim to be this beacon of exceptionalism; the goals as stated and voiced, are radical inclusion, compassionate community and honoured diversity of perspective. The time has come to walk the walk.

Maybe it means re-directing institutional energy away from empire building (read: Monterey Institute of International Studies, proliferating Study Abroad schools, etc.) toward genuine self-improvement. Maybe it means uncomfortable and challenging conversations about privilege, race, disability, gender, empathy, sexual orientation, accountability and faith becoming part of the norm, instead of remaining aberrations. Maybe it means establishing a substance abuse program, eating disorder clinic and workable sexual assault policy that increase safety and provide options in the absence of it. I don't know for sure.

But I do know that it means standing up and admitting that if the world has problems, so do we.

We just won't tolerate them. We will not avoid discussing the wrong when we could actively pursue the right.

Many will claim that your peer institutions are exactly the same but I want to propose that nothing is stopping us from breaking away from the pack. Many will foresee falling rankings and suffering endowments but I choose to believe in a world where we can demonstrate that genuine strides toward community do not compromise on all that already makes us great. Many will interpret this message as hateful criticism but I want to suggest that it comes from a place of loving optimism; from an eagerness to honour the wonderful complexity that surrounds us and from a belief that we must always seek to be better.

Middlebury, I came to you as a Feb and a climate activist — two of your most celebrated demographics. But over time I became a Senior Admissions Fellow who resigned due to an inability to happily represent you; a person of colour angered by the marginalization of colourful peers; a woman fearful of the harm done to fellow females; a beneficiary of privilege shocked by the behaviour of other wealthy students; a girlfriend to another woman upset by the stereotyping and harassment of gay, transgender and bisexual community members; an international student uncomfortably aware of the fundamental divide between students of this country and others. I will leave you in May a social justice activist more disillusioned and yet more energetic than ever.

I began to care precisely because you didn't.

I could have because you did.

And to my fellow students — time to do something about it.

Love,
Rhiya

Choosing to work toward liberation

My first year at Middlebury was hard. From the moment I stepped foot on campus, I knew that Middlebury might never feel like home. No one came up to me and handed me a pamphlet on why Sam was different, or told me to my face that I was not welcome. Instead, it was written across eyes that landed on my patched second-hand clothes and unkempt hair, or uncomfortable glances when I talked about my socio-economic status at Middlebury.

I soon learned that I could borrow "nicer" clothes from friends and pass as wealthier than I was; a practice that is commonplace for many poor folks at Middlebury. Because if your clothes don't show it, then you don't have to constantly defend the fact that the Salvation Army, rather than Armani, is your one-stop-shopping. And as the loose, torn jeans were put back in the box in favor of the Gap pair from a friend, I in turn learned the parts of myself that didn't fit like they used to in this new place called Middlebury.

This is just one way of many that we divide ourselves here at Middlebury. Others are more nefarious than a changing wardrobe — the racist and classist policing of our campus; having others pity you because you have a "differently"-abled body; or the invisible wall some folks construct because you wear the Hijab. These microaggressions are symptoms of a divided community, and we all feel the effects.

At the end of my first year, I worked up at Bread Loaf during a writer's conference. There, I met an alumnus who sympathized with the challenges I was facing and shared with me some insight that I would like to pass along. He said, "If you ever feel comfortable at Middlebury, you are lying to yourself." I almost don't have to tell you that he wasn't owning class, and surprise, he wasn't white.

In her letter to the institution that is Middlebury College a column over, Rhiya Trivedi '12.5 suggests that these obstacles that lie on the road to inclusion are not aberrations in the context of systems of oppression and subjugation that exist throughout global society. What she does emphasize is the need to work beyond them in residential communities like Middlebury that in rhetoric strive to be more. The Middlebury College diversity homepage says, "At Middlebury, we strive to make our campus a respectful, engaged community that embraces difference, with all the complexity and individuality each person brings." A fine goal to be sure, but it is as of yet unrealized. Too many students who have been brought here under the banner of diversity feel disenfranchised; too many biases and bigotries that all of us arrive here with go unchallenged.

President Liebowitz acknowledged this in his 2007 Baccalaureate speech when he said, "If the wariness about discomfort is stronger than the desire to hear different viewpoints because

engaging difference is uncomfortable, then the quest for diversity is hollow, no matter what the demographic statistics on a campus reflect." And yet the hollowness remains.

At a CCSRE (Center for the Comparative Study of Race & Ethnicity) event earlier this year, Mugo Kennedy shared about a white friend of his who attended a meeting discussing the effects of racism on our community. Afterwards, Mugo asked his friend how he felt about it,

and his friend replied that he did not see how it related to his life. His response is concerning, in the context of our interconnectedness. Too often, when discussing the divisions in our community, no one but the disenfranchised feel that it is truly their problem to tackle. Administrators view it generally as a student issue, students blame the administration, and so it goes.

I offer one seed to leave you with. For the past year, I have been leading a group called United for Undergraduate Socio-Economic Diversity on campus. The group is made up of people from all monetary backgrounds, including some folks whose families pay full tuition, as well as others who receive full financial aid.

Only in challenging the ways that we both perpetuate bigotry and stay silent in the face of oppression can we begin to leave behind the feel-good illusion of contentment and work towards liberation for ourselves and others.

Before leading the group, I used to think that only poor folks at Middlebury truly felt the pain of being socio-economically "othered" in this place. But it is abundantly clear that everyone, independent of socio-economic background, struggles with classism at Middlebury.

While some people may disproportionately bear the burden of feeling out of place, the divisions within our community affect us all. Only through collectively — students and administrators, rich and poor, American and international, etc. — claiming responsibility for challenging the oppressive institutions in this place and building community can we begin to bridge the divides and heal the hurts that many of us experience every day at Middlebury. If we truly cannot claim responsibility, then the words of President Liebowitz shall remain with us, and the "quest for diversity" will remain a superficial and unsatisfying one.

Acknowledging discrimination and "leaning into discomfort" is just the start. Only in challenging the ways that we both perpetuate bigotry and stay silent in the face of oppression can we begin to leave behind the feel-good illusion of contentment and work towards liberation for ourselves and others. It is not something to be taken lightly, nor is it something to fear. Immense opportunity for empathy, understanding and disagreement exists in the wonderful complexity of our campus and our society — the time has come to ask ourselves whether we are prepared to leave this potential untapped.

READER OP-ED

Sam Koplinka-Loehr

'13 is from Ithaca, N.Y.



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COURSE BREAK

FILMING & EDITING
02 JULY — 03 AUGUST

CHAMPLAIN COLLEGE

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n. 1: The online gateway to information

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<Thanks to the new *portal*, I checked the course hub, the Proctor lunch menu, and who's playing at 51 Main—all in one place!>

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RUNNING THE SHOW

Ever wondered how a bill gets passed? How a club gets formed? How Honor Code infractions are dealt with? Members of our most influential student groups answer these questions and more.

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY
Kara Shurmantine, Dana Walters,
Cedar Attanasio

LAYOUT BY
Ian Stewart

FACULTY COUNCIL

Faculty Council sends two faculty representatives to the Community Council.

STAFF COUNCIL

Staff Council sends two faculty representatives to the Community Council.

STUDENT BODY

Student applications for Community Council positions are reviewed by Co-Chair Janet Rodrigues '12.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The council addresses issues that affect multiple constituency groups. Community council representatives advise the Dean of the College (Shirley Collado) who has the power to change policy once it's signed off by the president.

Senators can write two types of legislature: bills and resolutions. Bills concern internal policy, or changing the SGA by-laws, and spending money. A resolution conveys the sense of the Senate. Because they are the representatives of the students the opinion by extension is the opinion of the entire student body. Bills are actual binding laws that apply to the SGA as an institution and the committees and student orgs under its jurisdiction.

SGA

Power of the purse

Power of the pen

Inter-House
Representativ

"We have a \$400,000 surplus right now. That being said, however, much of that has already been promised (as opposed to spent) for things like OINK, the Bike Room, big capital expenditures for large orgs. etc. Generally, the SGA likes between \$150,000 and \$200,000 for insurance reasons."

-Vin Recca '12, President

TELL US ABOUT YOUR ROLE

"My role on MCAB is there is consistency. I am always looking to make sure that there are no gaping holes. I also chair chairs and the committee creatively and think in terms of coming up with ideas. In terms of specific duties, I am involved in our weekly executive meeting as the bi-weekly chair. I also meet weekly with the Office of Students."

"IN THEIR WORDS"
NADIA SCHREIBER '12,
MCAB President

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"IN THEIR WORDS"

ZACH MOLLE

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LEGISLATIVE BRANCH (SGA SENATE)

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

Joanie Tompkins

COMMONSENATE

Each commons
senator is se
Senate.

CLASS SENATE

First Year
Sophomore
Junior
Senior
Senior Faculty
First Year Faculty

JUDICIAL BOARDS

COMMUNITY

Reviews alleged violations of Middlebury's Community Standards and General Policies; Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy; and other Handbook policies when the alleged violation is serious enough that probation or suspension are possible outcomes. Its membership includes four students, one staff member, two faculty members and one dean.

THEIR WORDS

MOLLENGARDEN '12

Associate Community Board Member

"The set-up is a table with the CJB side, and the respondent on the opposite side, accompanied by an adviser if they so desire. The Associate Dean for Judicial and Student Life Karen Guttentag presides. The hearing usually consists of statements, interviews, testimonies and questioning. The time will vary depending upon the number of actions considered, the number of students, witnesses, interview time, etc."

ACADEMIC

Reviews alleged violations of Middlebury's Honor Code: cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic dishonesty. Its membership includes four students, two professors and one dean.

APPEALS

Reviews AJB and CJB cases when a new hearing has been granted through the appeals process. Its membership includes two student members of the AJB or CJB who did not hear the original case, two faculty members, and one member of the academic administration.

"IN THEIR WORDS"

LANDERS CARNAL '12

Academic Judicial Board Member

WHY IS THE AJB IMPORTANT?

"The AJB is important primarily because of its role in helping to maintain the integrity of the Middlebury College community. Although infractions of the College Handbook are not a regular occurrence, they do need to be addressed. Therefore, while sanctions can certainly be a part of the judicial process, the goal of the AJB is not to punish students for improper academic behavior; rather, the AJB seeks to educate students about the importance of the Honor Code and the values for which it stands."

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE DIFFICULTIES OF BEING A MEMBER OF THE BOARD?

"Members of the AJB encounter a variety of difficulties and challenges, primarily during hearings. Cases that come before the Board are often both physically and mentally exhausting for everyone involved. Therefore, being a member of the Board requires extraordinary patience, especially since hearings can last anywhere from several hours to half a day in length. In addition, Middlebury is a small and tightly-knit community; therefore, students and faculty who come before the Board often know (or at least recognize) one or more of the student and faculty members of the Board (and vice versa). This can potentially create awkward situations both during and after hearings, which is why the ability to be fair and impartial is incredibly important for Board members."

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

PRESIDENT

Vin Recca '12

CABINET

- +Student Co-Chair of Community Council
- +Chief of Staff
- +Treasurer/Finance Committee Chair
- +Director of Membership/Elections
- +Director of Student Organizations/Constitution Committee Chair
- +Press Secretary
- +Director of:

Academic Affairs
Environmental Affairs
Technology Affairs
Alumni Relations

COMMITTEES

- +Institutional Affairs Committee
- +Constitution Committee
- +Finance Committee

THE CAMPUS

MCAB

CLUBS

WHAT CHALLENGES DO YOU FACE?

"I would say the main challenge is how to make sure that the events we plan are ones that people want to go to. I always have to think about what might be exciting, not just to us, but also for as much of the student body as possible. It can be disappointing to all of us when events that we were positive about do not go over well with the student body, and keeping the morale up also poses an interesting challenge."

WHAT IS MOST REWARDING ABOUT THE JOB?

"When events go well, and people are having fun, it is one of the most rewarding feelings. So much of our time is spent in the abstract, thinking about what might work (and when/how/where). So when it all comes together in the end, it's a wonderful feeling. Also when we are able to work through issues productively, and debrief what went right/wrong so that we know what to do better next time, that's also great."

"IN THEIR WORDS"

VIN RECCA '12

SGA President

"The SGA could be doing so much more. The Faculty Committee and Staff Committee represent their constituencies much better than we do. The SGA needs to be tackling bigger issues and doing much more. I'm trying to bring back a sense of professionalism. Not to say that my predecessors didn't have that, but just a greater sense of gravitas to the institution. This government should be reflective of the students, and Middlebury should be the way we want it to look. Especially for the younger generation – I'm going to graduate, but the first-years are just starting their Middlebury careers. I want to make sure they have the tools and the resources necessary to make Middlebury the way they want it to be."

Lust AT LEAST



BY CLAIRE SIBLEY

To crush is an act of making celebrity of the magnetically unfamiliar: with only a few attractive hues, we have the power to paint a veritable Monet of the object of our affection — flowery and vaguely blurry.

As you sneak a glance at your Proctor crush (hiding behind the latest issue of People graced with yet another speculation concerning Brangelina's longevity) rest assured that your shallowness is not without grand precedent: Petrarch crushed epically for Laura, quitting the priesthood to pine and managing to work history's most famous case of blue-balls into the most influential sonnet sequence ever. Without, of course, actually meeting the woman in question.

More recently, our culture has had a collective crush on Manic Pixie Dream Girls who — we believe — have the power to sweep into our lives and use their colorful hairdos and unusual syntax powers to relieve our boring — if heroic — existences. It could even be argued that mystical religions are the ultimate crushes: how much more romantic and obscure can you get than worshipping the unknowable?

For whatever reason, humans love to make theatrically magnificent messes of their hearts based on impressively minimal evidence. Crushing sates some deep hunger for intrigue we seem neither capable to explicate or deny. As Christine Lavin astutely observes, "She's a thousand miles gone, and that's fine / 'Cause you're fond of the shimmer distance brings to these things." No matter how thirsty we are, sometimes we'd just rather watch the mirage glitter than get close enough to find the oasis give way to the dune.

An armchair anthropologist once explained the theory of crushing in terms of hunter-gatherer societies: one day, a mysterious stranger shows up at camp sporting an unfamiliar trait — long legs, big teeth, broad shoulders, etc. The woman who crawls under his animal hide next to the camp fire is more likely to introduce variance and genetic resilience than the cave chick who's getting busy with her own cousin. This, concluded the anthropologist, explains humanity's penchant for being attracted to the mysterious stranger.

Whatever advantage our mammoth-eating ancestors may have gleaned from crushing on novel newcomers, organized society (which has pretty much got the procreation thing down) proves the crush both quaint and difficult. Many a critical inspiration have I lost to hotties strolling by while I vainly attempted to write a paper (wherever, it seems, I try to write). And that's just crush-lite: as our native crush lists attest, every semester a crop of attractive people leave our campus having never fruitfully revealed their secret affections to the object thereof.

But it seems not-crushing is just as frustrating as crushing: not having someone to dream about one day possibly pursuing leads to long Friday nights not so casually strolling from Brooker to Palmer to Munford to the Mods in listless pursuit of — something. Somewhere. Maybe.

While the cure to a crush is simply to get to know someone, how to deal with not having a crush seems a more nuanced issue: making out with your best platonic friends out of boredom is rarely a good solution (with the exception of spin the bottle, which is always a solution to something, especially if you have attractive friends) and more than a certain amount of porn can leave your dominant hand sadly jaded.

The best solution I've come up with is indulging in works of fiction with particularly strong characterization: drool-worthy TV mini-series (Sherlock is currently everyone's favorite) or '50s rom-coms (try all the Carey Grant movies and you're bound to fall for someone) allow us viewers to crush on characters while the fourth wall keeps the line between reality and fantasy temporarily at bay. Advantageously, you're free to do whatever you please with Mr. and Mrs. Smith when you invite them over for dinner in your imagination, and Brangelina won't hear a thing.

Sophie Clarke '11 wins Survivor

By Cedar Attanasio

Sophie Clarke '11 started as the ultimate underdog on *Survivor: South Pacific*, which ran on CBS last fall. Young, bookish and female, Clarke's odds of winning seemed slim. But with social cunning, physical prowess and critical thinking, she beat out the 17 other contestants. Many Middlebury students followed her adventure on television and through episode summaries (which you can find on midd-blog.com).

Survivor is a reality television show that pits contestants against each other, eliminating them based on communal votes and physical challenges on elaborate obstacle courses. The final prize is one million dollars. Clarke made alliances early in the competition with other contestants to help her survive to the later rounds. Then, she won immunity from being voted off by winning a race challenge that ended with a puzzle. She finished the puzzle first, securing her a spot in the final three, with contestants Benjamin "Coach" Wade and Albert Destrade. As with other seasons of *Survivor*, contestants kicked out in earlier rounds decided the final winner by a vote. Sophie won the three-way vote 6-3-0.

Now Clarke is back in class, at Mount Sinai School of Medicine, a little bit richer. Between lectures, she sat down to answer our questions via email.

MC: When did you get the idea to be on *Survivor*? Were you a big fan of earlier seasons?

SC: My dad made my sisters and I watch the first season because he was writing a book about islands and thought it was a documentary. It wasn't — but we got hooked! I saw there was a casting call online and submitted a video during finals week in December [of 2010].

MC: How was the application process compared to, say, medical school?

SC: Oh much harder! I got into medical school the easy way [The Mount Sinai Humanities and Medicine Early Acceptance Program] sophomore year of college. I just had to write one essay! For the *Survivor* application, I had to make two videos, fill out a 50-page application, and go through a very grueling four-month casting process.

MC: How does Midd prepare, or not prepare, someone to play *Survivor*?

SC: I know everyone calls Middlebury a bubble, but [it is] actually very diverse. And, I think because it is such a small school, you cannot insulate yourself with friends who are similar to yourself. Instead, you are forced to make friendships and relationships out of your comfort zones — with town members, faculty, international students, etc. ... On *Survivor*, you are stuck with 17 people who really are the epitome of their stereotype (cowboy, ex-gang member, Mormon mother, etc.) and you must be able to relate with them. You must be able to connect with all types of people for hours and hours on end (around a campfire ...).

MC: As a reality show skeptic, I have to ask about some of the logistics of the show. Did you actually build those shelters? Did you ever ask the production staff for another blanket? How was the food?

SC: Yes, we spent the whole first day building our shelter and every single day after that collecting and weaving palm fronds to reinforce. Most of the time out there revolves around camp life — strategy is really secondary. We spend most of our time, at least the first few weeks, collecting firewood, reinforcing the shelter, boiling water and fishing. We don't talk to production, and we had no blankets. Production does not provide anything. All we had was a machete and fishing gear. For food, we ate coconuts and whatever fish we could catch. The coconuts are laxatives, however, and in general made me physically sick to eat after a while so those



MONTY BRINTON, COURTESY OF CBS BROADCASTING

Clarke sits with a bottle of water in her camp. Pictured in the foreground is her co-contestant Edna Ma, an anesthesiologist, who lost the game after 33 days on the island.

really didn't provide much sustenance.

MC: Could you give us the gender dynamics of the game, and how you used them to your advantage?

SC: I was a unique female character on *Survivor*. I don't like to call myself a nerd — but I am the closest to a female nerd *Survivor* has ever cast. Usually the females are eye candy models and beauty queens. I think this gave me an advantage out there because I wasn't the traditional flirty-manipulative-girl threat that the other players knew to watch out for. The other thing about *Survivor* is that, in the beginning, the game really revolves around getting rid of the weakest (i.e. the girls.) So, as a female, it's hard to avoid getting targeted as weak in the beginning. Yet, it's also important to seem non-threatening as the game goes on. I, however, knew the guys I aligned with all had pretty big egos and would likely underestimate me. And they did.

MC: Well that taught them a lesson! Next question: It seems like everyone who graduates from Midd has a degree in deconstructing. Did you ever find yourself over-analyzing the cultural phenomenon of which you were a part?

SC: All the time — about everything. One part of me still thinks "ugh, reality T.V. — so trashy" and the other part of me really respects the medium. The show has impacted every facet of my life from the choices I make about how I spend my free time to the way I interact with everyone.

I also am constantly questioning what it means to be a pseudo-celebrity — is this something I should be taking seriously? I think it is. I have had people with cancer tell me how inspired they were by my journey on *Survivor* and how it lifted them out of depression. That is a serious impact they think I made.

MC: Your Wikipedia page is up for deletion because, according to the talk page your "only notability is being a winner on *Survivor: South Pacific*." Harsh words. Was *Survivor* just 15 minutes of fame or the beginning celebrity career?

SC: Ooo! Haha that's funny. This was 15 minutes of fame. I am back at medical school and, a, uh, more harsh reality has set in. I would love to extend that page with more work in medicine! (and I hope it doesn't get cut — a [Wikipedia] page is really a fantastic accomplishment!)

MC: So, a million dollars. How much of that do you get to keep, after taxes and all that? Any thought of some towards MIDD Start?

SC: After taxes, about \$600,000. I did donate to a few different charities right after I won. I am sorry to say, I did not donate to MIDD Start — too many good projects and not enough time to decide!

MC: Any advice to graduating seniors from your perspective as a *Survivor*?

SC: Slow down. Breathe. I buy into every cliché in the book now. On *Survivor*, your identity is stripped of almost everything that, as a Middlebury student, you commonly define yourself by — you are no longer defined by your major, your high school, your wealth, your friends, your boyfriend, your clothes, your job etc. ...

On *Survivor*, for 39 days, you are deprived of all of this. You have no worldly possessions. No Uggs, no books, no movies, no paper, no pens, no makeup, nothing. You have none of this baggage. And, I think because of this, after 39 days of living with just my own soul for company — I really did find myself. I know that most graduating seniors don't have the opportunity to starve themselves for 39 days, but I would advise them to, in any way they can, try to find themselves. Slow down, unplug and just live with yourself for a while.

CLUB SPOTLIGHT: DREAM

By Shannon Fiedler

"The aim of DREAM is to develop strong one-on-one relationships and to provide the children the opportunity to explore new experiences and environments they otherwise might not be exposed to," said co-chair Jane Williams '11.5. "As a soon-to-be graduate, I can say that DREAM is one of the parts of my Middlebury life that I am most proud to have been a part of."

DREAM stands for Directing through Recreation, Education, Adventure and Mentoring. On Friday afternoons, members of the club and the kids from the community get together for group activities, either on campus or other field trips. The mentors also work outside of the framework to foster the personal relationships.

"DREAM is about bringing a new perspective to the kids," said member Brett Basarab '12. "The housing communities we work with tend to be lower income/affordable housing. Many of these kids just don't have these simple opportunities to interact with college students."

Half a dozen colleges in Vermont have started DREAM clubs. The first started in 1999 at Dartmouth. Williams and Deb Wakefield '11.5 started the Middlebury branch of DREAM in 2007. It started out pretty informal.

"For the first year and a half, the mentors would knock on the kids' doors and ask their parents if they could come play," said Siegel. "When I first joined DREAM, we would play in the yard with a few kids, but it was a struggle to gain the parents' trust."

But the group grew, and activities

became more structured. What distinguished DREAM from other groups, such as Community Friends, is the emphasis on group activities, such as hiking, apple picking and the annual Halloween party.

"Doing these large group activities also allows mentors the chance to get to know each other and to form a sense of community, as well," said Williams. "This has been one of the most rewarding parts of DREAM — I met many of my best friends through DREAM."

Basarab agrees. "Of course working with the kids is the main part of what we do, and I always love it. But to be perfectly honest, DREAM for me has been a way to expand socially," he said. "I've met lots of new people, and we've always been a close knit group, so we do a bunch of stuff together outside of DREAM — that's really the best part. I think that any endeavor/activity you do really depends on the group you're doing it with."

The relationships are key in DREAM — the group's inner friendships and the relationships formed with the kids and their parents.

"Over the past few years, I've seen families grow to trust us more and more. We're watching the kids grow up, learn and gain confidence," said Siegel.

Those relationships center around Friday afternoon playtimes, which Williams calls "DREAM time."

"Every time I ring the doorbell at one of the kid's houses I see their faces light up when they see that we're there and its DREAM time," said Williams. "I love to see their enthusiasm and excitement — even if we are simply playing outside that week! DREAM time is something exciting



COURTESY: DREAMPROGRAM.ORG

Sierra Young '12 "flies" Maycee, her DREAM mentee, during a play session.

and special that they can look forward to and that makes it worth it to me."

"[It's] a change from their normal school routine, which then makes their normal routine that much better," said Basarab. "You know, another thing to look forward to at the end of every week."

And the mentors enjoy playing with the kids just as much.

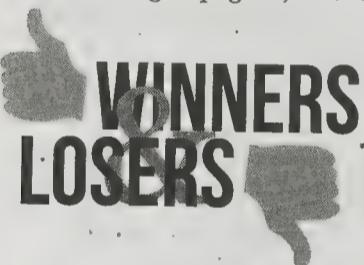
"One of our mentees is selling girl scout cookies," she said, "and I asked her, since I'm graduating in February, how I might be able to get the cookies when they are ready to be delivered in March. She said that she would be willing to take them to my house for me. I told her I didn't think that was possible because I live far away — in Maryland. That's not that far," she told me. "I could send them to my Nana in Virginia and she could

bring them to you," she offered. It was so sweet. And so generous. Nothing in the world stands in this girl's way and I love that about her."

"The kids are awesome — they have a ton of energy, and they are always excited to see us," said Siegel.

For volunteers, DREAM is social service and socializing. Mentors connect with each other, their kids and families in the local community. In a sense, they are working together to bring about the sense of equality for all.

"I would say it's about [...] expansion," said Basarab. "I know that these kids would be different without DREAM; I think it's just so important, especially when you're young, to try new things, to see new things and to take safe risks. That's what DREAM really stands for."



ADULT NEW YEAR'S EVE

So many bubbles!

ADULT CHRISTMAS

So few Legos.

YAY-TERM

*Internships.
Independent study.*

J-TERM

*Chinese.
Organic Chemistry.*

WORKSHOPS

*Midd Kids making silver jewelry
and speaking Cantonese.*

SWEATSHOPS

*Cantonese children still
making most silver jewelry.*

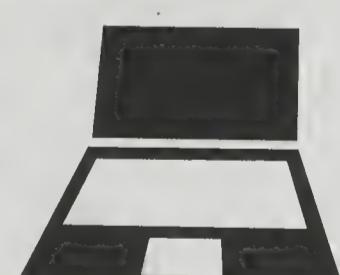
1 SEE SOMETHING



2 SAY SOMETHING



3 SEND SOMETHING



DO YOU
HAVE A
TIP OR AN
IDEA FOR
A STORY?

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NEWS, LOCAL EVENTS
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ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

WINTER TERM CLASS SHAPES WORLD AROUND THEM



By Alex Knight

Over the course of four weeks, the nine students enrolled in "Living World in Ceramics" will learn a new medium, construct a range of creative clay installations and put together a showcase of their nine unique pieces, each in an eight-by-eight-by-eight space. The course focuses on hand-building clay construction to create large scale interpretations of something from the animal world.

Using the medium of low-fire clay, students are prompted to explore and build representations of the living world, within "the human and animal kingdoms." The inspiration for this prompt is in the focus of ancient art's concentration on the figurative and animal form, but the course's representations are decidedly contemporary in style and content.

The students are lucky to be working with the College's Cameron Visiting Artist Brian Boldon, who is teaching the course alongside Professor of Studio Art Jim Butler. When Boldon is out of earshot, Butler totes him as possibly the leading expert in clay in the United States. With access to an authority like Boldon, the students are able to learn a plethora of innovative techniques very quickly.

The pedagogy of the course aims for its students to learn to use and understand the material of clay, bridging aesthetic form and a physically strong structure. An important focus of large-scale pieces is an investigation of complex strategies to assemble parts of their structures together. While clay is the principle medium of the course, students bring wood, glass, steel and epoxies into their pieces, sometimes for support strength and sometimes as an element of design.

"These aren't your grandmother's glazes," Butler said of the glazes the class is anticipating using once their constructions are fired at the end of the second week of Winter Term. The class emphasizes mineral-based glazes, which will add tactile surfaces and uncommon color effects through chemical reactions during the heat of kiln-firing.

Projects range from a sinewy cave of bones to the theme of "ant power," which is being explored by Diego Russell '12. His piece represents a portrayal of a large-scale ceramic ant at a breakfast table.

The course will produce nine discrete installations, independent in content and idea. This is in contrast to the collaborative installment Butler led in his "City of Your Dreams" Winter Term course in 2009. The students are all extremely happy with both the course and the skills they are learning.

"It's a lot of work, but a lot of fun," says Ashley Litzenberger '11.5, who is building an abstract elephant, emphasizing form and silhouette over the class's contemporary selection of glazes.

Indeed, student response has been mostly positive. In his selection for his Winter Term class, Russell summarized it well.

"I knew I hit it big time," he said.

The class as a whole are currently working on having an installation that would show off the class's final creations. The installation is currently slated to be held in the Johnson pit during the beginning of next semester with the exact date still pending.



COURTESY: ALEX KNIGHT

Check out our top five video games of 2011
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DON'T
MISS
THIS

Middlebury College Orchestra

The Middlebury College Winter Term orchestra, conducted by the Conductor of the College Orchestra, Andrew Massey, come together thanks to the Music Department to bring us a performance of Beethoven's classic Seventh Symphony. Tickets free.

1/27, 8 P.M., CENTER FOR THE ARTS, CONCERT HALL

PUSH: Moving History Forward

Swing, contact improvisation, hip-hop, and modern dance, all dance forms that have their roots in American Dance. Come and observe as the Middlebury Dance Company and other guest artists bring to life this new vision of 21st century dance. A discussion will follow the Friday performance. Free.

1/27, 1/28 8:00 P.M., CENTER FOR THE ARTS, DANCE THEATRE

Environment and Object in Recent African Art

This new exhibition features art by internationally renowned artists El Anatsui and Yinka Shonibare, among others living in African nations and around the world. The installation at the College is supported by the Christian A. Johnson Memorial Fund. Free.

1/27 - 4/22, MIDDLEBURY MUSEUM OF ART

ONE LIFE LEFT



BY SANTIAGO AZPURUA-BORRAS

This generation of games has been both incredibly rewarding and baffling. The *Call of Duty* franchise continues to be the best and fastest-selling piece of entertainment ever (*Modern Warfare 3* sold 6.5 million copies and made \$400 million in its first 24 hours). *Angry Birds* has gone from iOS game to a multi-million-dollar franchise with all sorts of merchandise, including gummy fruit snacks. But in between the pig-destroying and military warfare, there have been a plethora of titles worth playing this year. These five are the ones that I felt were some of the finer offerings to be had from 2011. If you haven't played any of these yet, I suggest you pick them up. Not only are they probably cheaper by the time you read this, but for all we know, 2012 may be the last chance you have to play them!

RADIANT HISTORIA

Nintendo DS

This little gem came to my attention a little too late to write a formal review, but I still want to give it the love it deserves. *Radiant Historia* tells the story of Stocke, a special agent for the fictional country of Alistel. Alistel is currently engaging in a war for fertile territory against the kingdom of Gragnorg, which serve as the antagonist for the first half of the game. During this war, the land is slowly turning into inhospitable desert, and no one is sure why. This is where Stocke learns how to use the power of the White Chronicle, a book that allows the user to travel through time. Within the game there are two histories: the standard and alternate. What the player decides and does in one timeline directly affects the other. What I personally enjoy about the game is that there are wrong choices. Many times a single deci-

sion will lead to one of the games many "bad" endings. The gameplay consists of turn-based combat that works incredibly well on the handheld. With a compelling story that one can't help but compare to the classic *Chrono Trigger*, *Radiant Historia* is a throwback to classic role playing games without too much grinding.

THE LEGEND OF ZELDA: SKYWARD SWORD

Nintendo Wii

After five years of what some would consider empty promises made by Nintendo about the functionality of the Nintendo Wii, *Skyward Sword* raises the bar for motion sensitive gaming. *Skyward Sword* is supposedly the prequel to the other *Zelda* games. The thing one immediately notices about *Skyward Sword* is how tight the combat feels. Link, the protagonist, swings his sword in what feels like a 1:1 response with the player's movements. In addition, the environments are brightly colored and beautiful. The best part of the game is finally seeing some real chemistry between Link and Zelda, the female lead. This was something that, for some reason, was painfully absent from other *Zelda* titles, with perhaps the exception of *Ocarina of Time*. My personal favorite aspect of *Skyward Sword* was the antagonist, Ghirahim, a creepy, yet fabulous, character with tons of personality. He presents himself as a very real threat to Link and his loved ones. *Skyward Sword* shows that sometimes being late is better than never showing up, and has breathed new life into one of gaming's most beloved franchises.

CATHERINE

PlayStation 3 & Xbox 360

To recap from my review during the fall semester: *Catherine* tells the story of Vincent, a 32-year-old software program-

mer who has been with his girlfriend, Katherine for five years. When Katherine begins hinting at marriage, Vincent has a small personal crisis and tries to resolve it with a night of drinking with his buddies.

After they leave, Vincent meets Catherine, a 20-year-old blonde who, after some seduction, takes Vincent to bed. Now Vincent must attempt to save his relationship while trying to survive horrific nightmares he's been having every night as he goes to bed. The nightmares find Vincent in his boxers trying to climb a tower of blocks that he must push and pull, all while avoiding enemies and pitfalls. At the end of every stage, Vincent must climb another one of these towers while being chased by a horrible manifestation of Vincent's psyche.

Catherine also features an incredible soundtrack consisting mostly of remixes of classical symphonies that really enhance the emotion and stress that emanates from the game. *Catherine*, with its risky game-play design, could have easily been a sink-or-swim situation for its developers, but the fact it sold moderately well showed me that there is still room for risk-taking and creativity in the gaming industry and that one does not have to stick with what "works" to make a memorable gaming experience.

THE ELDER SCROLLS V: SKYRIM

PlayStation 3, Xbox 360 & PC

Skyrim is a dangerous game. It creates a world so vast and so interesting with so much to explore that it can make the player forget that there's a, you know, real world outside that has actual things that need to be taken care of. Even though *Skyrim* is a strictly single player experience, it is one of the greatest water-cooler games ever made. Players can spend hours on end sharing stories about their victories, their defeats or how much they miss Lydia, the beloved companion who has a tendency to get "fusrohdah'ed" off a cliff. While the main quest is a bit on the short side, there

is an overwhelming amount of quests to do. It's been months since I started playing this game, and my quest list is still excessively long. Fun combat, incredible levels of character customization, varied quests and good voice acting make *Skyrim* one of the most complete packages of the year. If you have some way of playing it, I really do think you should pick it up, even if you are not a fan of role-playing games.

ARKHAM CITY

PlayStation 3, Xbox 360 & PC

Arkham City is a sandbox-esque game developed by Rocksteady. After the events of *Arkham Asylum*, villain Dr. Hugo Strange closes off the slums of Gotham City and turns it into one giant prison dubbed "Arkham City."

The player controls Batman as he tries to figure out what Dr. Strange wants with him, as well as trying to find an antidote to a poison both Batman and Joker are slowly dying from. Along the way Batman encounters foes both old and new such as the prince of puzzles, The Riddler, the broken-hearted Mr. Freeze and a couple of surprise guests along the way.

However fans of the original *Arkham Asylum* will be disappointed to discover that Scarecrow, with his player-warping fear gas will not be making a return this time around. (But that does not mean that he is not in the game completely).

Arkham City succeeds at something many other games fail to do: it appeals to both the core fan base as well as the more casual fans. There is something in the game for absolutely everyone. Not only this, but the Arkham series totally rewrites the rules for developing a game based off of an already existing intellectual property.

This game is the difference between writing a love letter and a cheap cash-in. If you're a die-hard "Batfan" or simply a fan of Christopher Nolan's films, you're bound to be enchanted by Batman's dark charms. *Arkham City* is my game of the year.

Sophomore organizes environmentally friendly symposium

By Andrew Majek

How do business and sustainability function together? How can one maintain sustainability in the face of running a large-scale business? These are questions addressed at a symposium organized by Olivia French '14.

The symposium, titled "Eco Entrepreneurship and Leadership: The Growing Influence of Inspired Environmentalism," took place at the Franklin Environmental Center at Hillcrest this week.

The symposium brings five speakers from various backgrounds to talk about sustainability, business, entrepreneurship and leadership. It began Monday, Jan. 16 and will run through Thursday, Jan. 19.

Monday's speaker, Denise Mari, is the founder of the multimillion dollar company Organic Avenue, a juice company that promotes an environmentally friendly lifestyle and aims at educating others about how they can live to be healthy and sustainable at the same time.

Mari currently holds a masters degree in education and is currently working for a second masters degree in human nutrition at Bridgeport University.

Other speakers include Kalia Lydgate, co-founder of P.O.W.E.R., an environmental initiative that examines solutions to environmental problems, Robin Ingenthron, founder of Good Point Recycling, which finds environmentally friendly ways of getting rid of e-waste, Gregor Barnum, the previous director of Corporate Consciousness, a company that makes green products and Kyle Smitley, the owner and founder of Barley & Birch, a 100 percent organic clothing line for children.

French organized the symposium inspired by her interest in environmental issues, particularly in how they relate to

business and entrepreneurship.

"I think we're at this interesting point where the economy is in a really tough place and so is the environment. We really can't afford to keep doing things the way we have, so being innovative and coming up with new ideas and being an entrepreneur will only become more important," she said.

French chose speakers that either started their own company with a focus on sustainability or are involved in the community promoting sustainability.

The symposium is the culmination of many hours of work, emails and organizing. French began to send emails and collect people in fall semester, and chose Winter Term as the time to have the symposium as she thought that people would have more free time to come to the lectures.

In Mari's lecture, she discussed her belief of passion with purpose, which she said described what her company Organic Avenue is about: promoting sustainability and living a healthy, vegan lifestyle that doesn't harm the environment in any way, as well as promoting healing through eating a vegan diet.

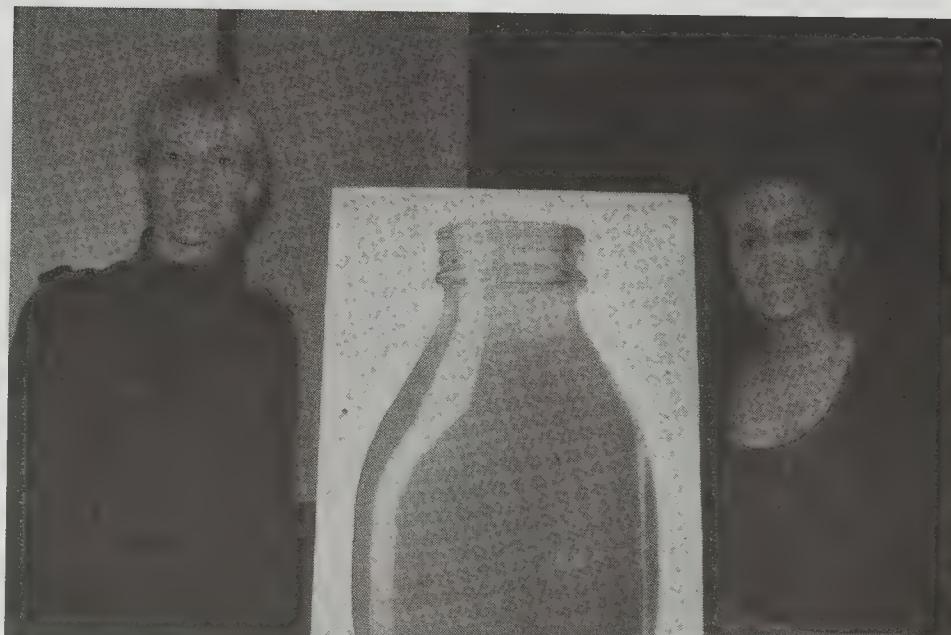
Mari calls herself a truth-finder and searches for information about sustainability and about the importance and impact of eating a vegan diet on the planet as well as the diet's impact on the body.

She emphasized the importance of being the change you want to see in the world and living by example.

"You have to practice on yourself, you have to be the example ... if you really want to change the world," she said.

One of the themes of her company is L.O.V.E., an acronym that stands for the live organic vegan experience.

"It's a magical little acronym because, for me, this whole lifestyle really says it all," she said. "If you're eating liv-



Guest speaker Denise Mari and Olivia French '14 show off one of Mari's products

ing foods, you're promoting health on the planet."

find her purpose.

When asked what was most challenging about creating Organic Avenue, Mari said that it was believing in herself.

"We are our own obstacles," Mari told the audience.

Forming her own company certainly wasn't an obstacle: Organic Avenue now consists of six retail stores and employs over 150 employees.

On top of all of this, their online store also sells a plethora of their already existing products including a variety of different "cleanse" programs.

Mari noted that her company was only the start.

"For me," she said, "Organic Avenue is that initial footprint ... and I want to create these stores all around the world so that people can access the lifestyle that which was previously inaccessible."

THE REEL CRITIC

BY DANA WALTERS

Thirty seconds into Keira Knightley's hysteria-addled screams, flailing, violent limbs and delirious, shrieking giggles, I remembered how discomfiting David Cronenberg's films are. Halfway through *A Dangerous Method*, when Michael Fassbender as Carl Jung is spanking Knightley in a half-untied corset, I realized that this was the wrong film to watch seated between my parents. The discomfort, however, is kind of Cronenberg's thing. And in this particular instance, it helps to transfer the emotional tension prevalent in the relationships between the characters unto the audience.

A Dangerous Method details the complex relations between psychiatrist Sigmund Freud (Viggo Mortensen), his protégé Carl Jung (Michael Fassbender) and Jung's patient and later colleague Sabrina Spielrein (Keira Knightley). The "dan-

gerous method" of the title is the talking cure, the remedy Jung and Freud pioneer to uncover their patients' emotional turmoil through mere talk. Beginning with the aforementioned hysterical Knightley as Spielrein beating her fists against the carriage driving her to Jung's clinic against her will, the film relates her transformation from a woman traumatized by the domestic violence perpetrated in her family, into a capable psychiatrist herself and unpressed woman who understands the psychological implications of her upbringing.

Or, I assume, the film meant to show this transformation. Cronenberg focuses upon seminal moments of interaction between doctor, doctor and patient (and later doctor) that imply change has occurred without displaying such growth. Rather, we see Spielrein madly trying to drown herself in a pond of mud shortly followed by her as a composed, astute medical student. Perhaps, by placing such conspicuous and ill-footed gaps within the narrative sequence, Cronenberg was attempting to mimic the gaps in understanding Freud and Jung must have encountered in seek-

ing out their patients' hidden unconsciousness. Unfortunately, what comes across is a film about the process of healing that lacks the crucial display of that process.

By omitting any sight of Spielrein's movement into mental stability, *A Dangerous Method* more centrally focuses on

the tension boiling between each of the key figures. Of these, the fraught and loving father-son partnership between Freud and Jung occupies the most interesting dynamic. While Jung's not even morally questionable, but just plain immoral relationship provides the sexual outlet for the film that Freud would deem necessary, it is only one small piece in the disintegration of the alliance of these two famous groundbreakers in the realm of psychotherapy. More so than many biopics or historical fictive films on this level, *A Dangerous Method* allows its characters to speak their minds (or those minds they ostensibly portray). Innovatively, therefore, the film delves deeper into the basis for psychotherapy and Freud's strong desire to legitimize his ideas, which so many, including Jung, saw, as too caught up with sex.

Mortensen and Fassbender are such adept actors, furthermore, that the flawed, impassioned personalities give the film all of the enjoyable discomfort it transmits. Previously, Fassbender has taken on rolls with little or no glory — the troubled, dark figure of *Jane Eyre*'s Mr. Rochester, the Irish hunger striker Bobby Sands in *Hunger* and most recently, the sex addict in the unrated film *Shame* (the title says it all). Jung, too, fits with this motley crew. He displays a stoic, calm demeanor unnaturally combined with the need to express himself that must arise from his vocation. When he succumbs to Spielrein's advances, it is expected only within the inevitable plot development, but for the character Fassbender creates, it is intriguing and sudden.

In Cronenberg's *A Dangerous Method*, then, the men are the ones that shine. Portraying a relationship with the domineering, unwavering father-figure of Freud and the submissive, but growingly stubborn son Jung, Mortensen and Fassbender demonstrate a strain of which Freud himself would be proud. Fassbender doesn't kill the father. But you can tell he wants to at times. Thankfully, he represses that inner urge, and the film is far better for it.

A DANGEROUS

METHOD



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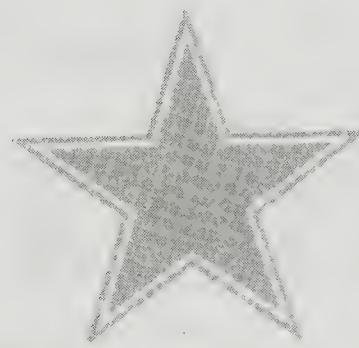
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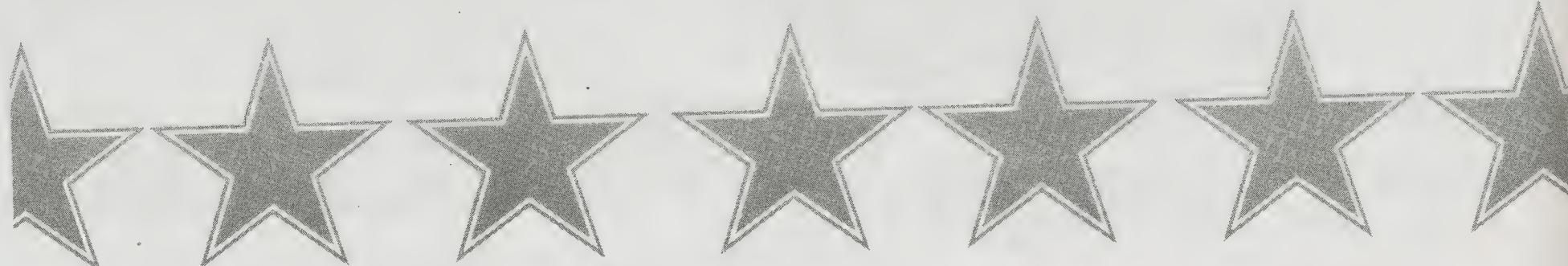
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Indoor track begins year with 3 record setting performances

By Alex Edel

Several members of the indoor track and field team traveled to New York City to compete in the NYC Gotham Cup last weekend. The majority of the spring track and field team trains and competes with the indoor team. Many of the runners also ran cross country in the fall, which resulted in a second-place finish for the women's team and a 13th-place finish for the men in the NCAA championship. Three school records were set in the season-opening meet, setting the stage for not only the rest of the indoor track and field season but also for the spring season.

In the first meet of 2012, Peter Hetzler '14 set a new school record in the 400 meter with a time of 49.94, a time that earned him

14th place overall. On the men's side other top finishes came in the mile event with Wilder Schaaf '14 and Anthony Lee '13. Schaaf finished in sixth place with a time of 4:21.28 while Lee finished in 14th place in a time of 4:24.49.

"It was exciting to test our fitness against such strong competition that early in the season," said Fritz Parker '15. "Great performances in so many events bode well for the rest of the indoor season."

Many runners on the women's side also had good finishes, including a school record — breaking time of 2:57.55, from Juliet Ryan-Davis '13. This record-breaking win earned her a 10th place finish. Yet another record came from the women's 4x400 meter relay team comprised of

Davis, Morgan Childs '14, Torie Sheffield '14 and Grace Heglund-Lohman '15. The new school record time of 4:04.90 put the team in 14th place.

Like the men, the women also had strong finishes in the mile. Lottie Hedden '14 finished in eighth place with a time of 5:21.70 while Allison Maxwell '14 finished in 10th place with a time of 5:23.60. Sheffield also placed top in the 500 meter with a time of 1:19.41, while Sarah Guth '15 placed 15th in the 800 meter 2:24.26.

The team will continue competition Friday at the University of Vermont. After this weekend the team will only have four more meets before the ECAC Championships, which will take place at the beginning of March.

EDITORS' PICKS

Which will be greater, Middlebury men's basketball team's margin of victory or Hamilton's assist total?

Will the women's hockey team score at least 5 goals this weekend against Bowdoin?

How many wins will the men's hockey team have this weekend?

Will the women's basketball team get their first NESCAC win this weekend?

Which two teams will play for the Super Bowl?

CAREER RECORD

Rikert Ski

CONTINUED FROM 24

"It's really important to understand that the other growth has been among students," Gardner said. "We've seen more students that aren't associated with the cross-country ski team [at Rikert than ever before]. The trail is a lot more inviting for even intermediate beginner skiers than what was at Rikert before, just having it wider and more available."

The new five-kilometer course is a phenomenal step forward for the Nordic program and will allow the Panthers to spend a greater time on the course over the span of the year — even at times when sparse snowfall in the past would have limited their ability to practice.

"Inevitably, one of our goals over time is to see if some level of snow-making can happen on this course," said Gardner. "Right now Mike [Hussey] is able to put down about a one-kilometer loop and that will be great, but we're finding these low snow years, the less we can travel, the more money we save. And from an environmental point of view we've looked at the costs carbon-wise of snow-making versus bringing people to snow and it's either a wash or in favor of snow-making."

While the improvements have revolutionized everything from the width and the difficulty of the trail to the access it gives students and the community of Middlebury, Gardner hopes to see continued improvement in the future of the course.

"The trail is a big deal and it's helpful and I hope that we'll see these improvements continue," he said.

BY THE NUMB3RS

19 Years since the men's hockey team suffered a defeat as bad as its 7-0 loss to Plattsburgh.

4 Number of combined sets dropped by both men's and women's squash teams against NESCAC opponents last weekend.

13 Total number of goals conceded by the women's hockey team through its first 12 games of the season (now with a record of 9-1-2).

6 Number of TD passes thrown by Tom Brady against the Denver Broncos in the Divisional Playoffs, tying an NFL record.

21 Number of consecutive wins the men's basketball team has in regular season play.



OWEN TEACH

ASSISTS
Panthers still get the win, obviously.

YES
7..to be exact.

2
Panthers will get the sweep of their Maine NESCAC rivals.

NO
I wouldn't mind being proved wrong on this one.

49ERS AND PATS.
Vernon Davis is a beast.



DAMON HATHEWAY

MARGIN OF VICTORY
Hamilton averages 15 assists per game which will be closer to 8 in a dominant Middlebury performance.

YES
The Panthers average over 3.5 goals per game and Bowdoin gives up 2.58. Yes, and yes.

1
I saw this team play Plattsburgh. When they put together consecutive wins I'll believe again.

YES
These girls straight ball. The win over Colby-Sawyer shows how good they can be.

GIANTS AND PATRIOTS
My call from the start. Giants win in rematch of XLII and half of Middlebury is killed by the other.



DILLON HUPP

MARGIN OF VICTORY
Dillon would like it to be known he's driving somewhere between Syracuse and Albany. He thinks.

YES
He says the fog is so bad he can't see anything. Visibility is low.

1
He might have seen a moose. Or a weird looking cloud.

YES
He's starting to wish he brought his How-To-Survive-in-the-Woods book.

PATRIOTS AND GIANTS
He had the Ravens but then got lost and pulled a U-Turn. He should be at Midd next week.



ALEX EDEL

ASSISTS
It will be a very close call, and the Panthers will still win by a large margin.

YES
In two games, they can definitely score more than 5 goals.

1
I think that Colby will pose a threat to the team while Bowdoin should be an easy victory.

YES
Their win against Colby-Sawyer will give them the confidence they need to beat Hamilton.

GIANTS AND PATRIOTS
The Giants have been on a roll and the Patriots dominated the Broncos.



YOU MEAN I CAN SUBMIT AN OP-ED ON ANYTHING?

Submit a letter to campus@middlebury.edu

Plattsburgh dominates men's hockey 7-0

By Alex Edel

This past weekend marked a second matchup with rival school Plattsburgh for the men's hockey team. The first meeting took place in December when the teams tied 0-0. However, the break since their last meeting did not play into the Panthers' favor as they were shut out 7-0. None of the periods could be looked at as the downfall, as Plattsburgh scored two goals in the first period, three goals in the second period, including a shorthanded goal in the waning seconds of a Middlebury power play and two again in the third. The Panthers will look to improve after this loss, as they will play two NESCAC opponents this coming weekend.

Since departing for winter break, the team has gone 2-2-1 in games starting Dec 31. Over New Years weekend, the team competed in the Holiday Classic at Middlebury where they first beat Skidmore 5-0 on New Year's Eve. Martin Drolet '12 came out strong just 2:59 into the first period, scoring the first of five goals for the Panthers. Tom Cantwell '12 also scored in the first period to increase the Panther lead to 2-0 going into the second period. Tom Freyre '14 scored the first goal of his career at 12:34 in the third period, increasing his team's lead to 3-0. Darric White '14 and Michael Griffin '12 finished out with a goal each to close the 5-0 win over the Thoroughbreds.

The following day, the Panthers came back to compete against South Maine for the tournament title. Although the game ended in a 2-2 tie even after overtime play, the Panthers were deemed the tournament champions due to the amount of points scored overall in the tournament. Charles Nerbak '12 and Louis Belisle '14 scored the two goals for Middlebury in the first and third periods respectively. Overtime proved to be scoreless, and although the Panthers had a 34-20 shots advantage, they were unable to capitalize on the edge. Charlie Strauss '12 and Mathieu Castonguay '13 were both named to the All Tournament Team.

Middlebury followed the tournament with two NESCAC games the following weekend. The Panthers first played a



ANDREW PODRYGULA

Middlebury's sophomore forward Louis Belisle '14 controls the puck in the Panthers' loss to Plattsburgh on Friday Jan. 13.

hard match against Wesleyan, which they lost in overtime 5-4. Last year marked the first time in 35 tries that the Cardinals had beaten the Panthers, this time in a 4-3 OT win. A year later the matchup was just as close, but once again Wesleyan was able to beat out the Panthers in OT.

Middlebury came out very strong when Griffin scored just 46 seconds into the game. However, the Cardinals came right back with a breakaway goal to tie the game at 1-1. Wesleyan then used this as motivation and scored two more goals in the first period.

The Panthers went into the second period and did not let the 3-1 score discourage them. In under a minute, the Panthers scored two goals to tie the game going into the final period. Co-captain Charlie Strauss '12 scored just 44 seconds into the third period, but Wesleyan came back with 3:23 remaining to tie the game at four.

The game then went into overtime where Wesleyan was able to score 3:38 into the period to clinch the victory. Again like in the overtime game against South Maine, the Panthers held a 36-29 shots advantage over their opponent, but failed to come away with the victory.

In their final game before the Plattsburgh matchup, the Panthers dominated Trinity with three goals in the third period, resulting in a 4-1 win over the Bantams. Midway through the first period Chris Steele '13 took advantage of Griffin's rebound and scored creating a 1-0 lead for the Panthers. Trinity then scored 12:56 into the second tying the game at 1-1.

The Panthers gained momentum in the third period, scoring the first of three goals just 2:55 into the period as Griffin scored his fourth goal of the year. Less than 10 minutes later George Ordway '15 scored. Ordway's goal was quickly

followed as Drolet scored the final Panther goal, capping off the Middlebury win over Trinity.

After a crushing loss to Plattsburgh, the Panthers hope to solve their problems when they travel to Maine for two NESCAC games. They play Colby (1-9-0 in NECAC) Saturday Jan. 20, and then travel to Bowdoin (6-2-2 in NESCAC) the following day. With a sweep this weekend the Panthers would boost themselves into the top three in the NESCAC standings.

Middlebury hosted their Maine rivals to start the season, with consecutive wins over Colby and Bowdoin. The win over Bowdoin, who was the 10th-ranked team nationally at the time, is the biggest win for the Panthers this season.

The Panthers have 11 games remaining before the start of the NESCAC Tournament, providing ample opportunities for the team to rebound from the Plattsburgh loss, their worst in 19 seasons.

Swimming and diving triumphs

CONTINUED FROM 24

would add a win in the 500-yard freestyle later in the meet, as well as a strong leg in the final relay.

In the 50-yard freestyle, 200-yard butterfly and 200-yard breaststroke the Panthers earned an impressive 48 points by taking the top three places in each event. Along with Loftus, Jamie Hillas '15 won two races for Middlebury: the 200-yard individual medley with a time of 2:13.06 and the 200-yard breaststroke with a time of 2:29.78.

The women also dominated the 3-meter diving event, earning the top two places. Colleen Harper '14 had a final score of 253.03, while Hannah King '13 was right behind her with a score of 240.50.

"Despite a very hard week of training, we surprised ourselves with the fast times we put on the board," said Andie Tibbets '14. "We could have easily given into the pain, but we pushed through it and were able to achieve a considerable win over a strong team."

The men and women will look to build on their wins when they host Union College at the Natatorium on Saturday at 2:00. While this meet will mark the last home dual competition, the swimmers will have one more chance to compete in their home pool during the Middlebury Invite.

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT EIGHT

RANKING	CHANGE	TEAM	Damon's Decisions
1+1		MEN'S BASKETBALL	A spot they're rather familiar with.
2-1		WOMEN'S HOCKEY	They're at the top of the NESCAC, country next?
3+1		SQUASH	The teams have combined for eight straight wins!
4-1		SWIMMING AND DIVING	The girls are 6-1. The guys? The girls are great!
5+1		NORDIC SKI TEAM	Improving Rikert makes the team that much better.
6-1		INDOOR TRACK	Peter Heltzer '14 broke a school record in the 400.
7		WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	They keep fighting and will turn things around.
8		JV HOCKEY	Yup, we said it.

Squash sweeps at Yale

By Owen Teach

Prior to this past weekend's matches featuring both the men and women's sides at the Yale Round Robin tournament, it had been almost a full month and a half since the Middlebury squash program had touched the court for match play. The long hiatus proved to be kind to the Panthers, however, as both teams came out firing in New Haven, sweeping their seven total encounters. Addi Disesa '12 commented on why the intermission did not slow the teams down.

"By now we are accustomed to long breaks within the season," said Disesa. "While it takes a week or two to knock off some of the rust gathered over vacation...the break provided a time to train individually and to rest for the last two months of the season." Women's captain Kathryn Bostwick '12 echoed this same sentiment.

"This fall we were missing three juniors abroad as well as a freshman...due to an injury," said Bostwick. "It was really exciting to have everyone back in the line up and playing to our full potential."

Especially encouraging from the weekend was Middlebury's dominance within the NESCAC, as both teams downed Colby and Bowdoin without dropping a set in the four matches (each team going 18-0, respectively.)

The 14th-ranked men's side returned from Connecticut at above .500 with an overall record of 4-3, defeating Colby, Bowdoin and George Washington 9-0, 9-0, and 7-2, respectively. Only 3

total sets were dropped against Bowdoin and Colby, putting the Panthers in solid standing to compete for the top of the NESCAC as the conference season unfolds.

"Handily beating two NESCAC schools we once considered rivals simply reflects the improvement in our program over the last few years," said Disesa. "Our top players, Valentin Quan-Miranda '12 and co-captain Jay Dolan '13 have beaten up on some strong competition. Numbers 5 and 6, Cooper Redpath '14 and Will Moore '14 have also both been lights out."

The women's side was even more thorough in its dismantling of conference foes, as only one set was dropped in the pair 9-0 wins against Colby and Bowdoin. The women's team also added two non-conference victories against George Washington and Mount Holyoke, 9-0 and 7-2, respectively.

"It obviously felt great to do so well in our first NESCAC matches and I think that we have a good chance to finish in the top at the NESCAC tournament," said Molly Hubbard '13. "Getting the actual NESCAC title will be pretty tough. Trinity is a squash dynasty and they compete on the same level as the Ivy League schools."

The women's performance also proved to be somewhat of a turnaround effort, as the team that was 0-4 before the break is roared back to .500 and now sits at 4-4.

Spectators can catch the men's team in action this Saturday against Vermont and Northeastern, while the women travel to take on Williams.

SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

For more than three years Brad Becker-Parton '11.5 and Spencer Wright '11.5 have met on Sunday mornings in the fall to discuss, debate and dissect the NFL schedule over the WRMC airwaves. They have co-hosted the number one sports radio show "Angry Fans" on WRMC since their second semester on campus. I caught up with the voices of rage Sunday afternoon to watch the NFC divisional round game between the New York Giants — Brad's beloved team — and the Green Bay Packers. Brad, who is also a Mets and Knicks fan, tells me he has never picked the Giants to win a playoff game before, which probably has something to do with the fact that he is a Mets and Knicks fan. Spencer, on the other hand — well we're not even sure he knows what a playoff game is. The poor kid has two NFL teams, the Minnesota Vikings and the Cleveland Browns.

As a diehard Seattle sports fan, I have very little ground from which to make fun of anyone — people who live in glass houses shouldn't throw rocks or something like that — but Cleveland and Minnesota routinely turn up in the top five cities for sports futility. For context, if you type, "Cleveland championship" into Google, the first result is Wikipedia's definition of drought as it pertains to sports, followed by the 1964 Cleveland Brown's NFL season and then summed up by a pair of websites titled "Countdown to a Cleveland Championship" and "Cleveland Championship Needed." Yikes. The search for "Minnesota Championship" is almost as horrifying. The first link google provides reads, "Lynx hope to end Minnesota's championship drought." For those of you who didn't know, the Lynx are Minnesota's WNBA team. Google's second suggestion is "Minnesota Championship Cyclocross Racing." So, there's that.

Needless to say, the two avid fans had much to talk about when, during a Wednesday night trivia session their first semester, they ranted together over a section of sports questions for the first time. "I met Brad at trivia one night and we cleaned up the sports section," Wright said. But the two were driven together as much by their own love of sports as they were by the dearth of sports fans on this campus. "The big thing is there are no other [big] sports fans [at Middlebury]," Becker-Parton said. "People at this school are really active and that is opposed to, not in addition to, being a sports fan."

And so "Angry Fans" took life. It started with Becker-Parton writing a weekly rant, sounding off on all that was wrong in sports and has evolved into a great dialogue between the hosts who, in addition to airing their grievances with their teams, play fantastic trivia games.

"[My favorite memory from the show] is the first 'Rep Your City' trivia game we ever played," Becker-Parton said. "[There] was a Mets-Indians series and that was the first competitive trivia we ever played and both our dads called in."

The trivia game, which the hosts play anytime two of their teams face off against one another, is an amalgamation of historical questions about their favorite teams. Wright once asked Becker-Parton how many all-time major statistical categories Patrick Ewing held for the Knicks. After five minutes of deliberation, Becker-Parton guessed 10. It was 11. Much like Patrick Ewing's famous finger roll in the 1995 Eastern Conference Finals, Becker-Parton was just off the mark.

Family members have played a part as well. "My mom called into the show five straight times and all she asked was, 'What do you think of Matt Cassell?'" Wright said of his favorite memory from the show.

With just two shows remaining before the super seniors graduate, I asked if there were any plans to continue the show after Middlebury. "We've talked about podcasting it," Becker-Parton admitted.

If nothing else, however, "Angry Fans" will have one more epic rant before ending where it all began for Wright and Becker-Parton — with one final round of trivia.

Damon Hatheway is a sports editor from London, UK.

Women's hoops ends drought

By Dillon Hupp

After a promising start to the season, the wheels periodically fell off the cart for Middlebury women's basketball. After a nine-point loss at Wesleyan gave the Panthers their seventh straight loss, they responded in tremendous fashion with a thrilling overtime win over Colby-Sawyer on Tuesday, Jan. 16. Prior to the overtime heroics, the Panthers had gone 42 days without a win.

Middlebury returned to play after winter break on Jan. 2 with their conference opener against Tufts in the Maritime Marine Tournament. In that game, a 78-36 loss, Middlebury would be out-rebounded by a margin of 25 boards and shoot just 30 percent from the field. The Panthers would also fall in the consolation game of the Maritime Tourney the next day, this time to Salve Regina. However, considering the Seahawks led 20-3 midway through the first half, the final score of 64-46 is indicative of a far more competitive Middlebury squad than their record might allude to.

Following their games in Maine, the Panthers held their first home NESCAC game against Bates on Jan. 6. Seemingly lacking any discouragement from their previous losses, Middlebury kept the game close throughout the first half and trailed by 10 at the break. Bates went on a small run to open up a 17-point lead early in the second half, but the Panthers battled back, cutting the lead to seven with about 10 minutes to play. However, the Bobcats proved to be too much for Middlebury to handle, eventually winning 65-58. Tri-captain Stephany Surrette '12 led three Panthers in double-figures with 13 points.

Next the Panthers took on Tufts again, this time in the friendlier confines of Pepin Arena. While this game was more competitive than the original meeting between the two teams, Middlebury still found themselves victimized by a first-half run by their opponent, this time to the tune of 13-2 over the first six minutes. The Panthers battled back from that point but



ANDREW PODRYGULIA

Tri-captain Brittany Perfetti '12 steps around a defender, to find an open teammate.

were unable to ever gain the lead, and fell by a final of 66-43. Tri-captain Brittany Perfetti '12 paced the Panthers in this game with 13 points.

Middlebury dropped two games on the road to NESCAC opponents this last weekend, Jan. 13 and 14. In their game on Friday, the Panthers fell to Connecticut College 72-59. After playing the Camels tight in the early stages of the first half, the visitors eventually fell behind after an 11-0 Conn. College run and never recovered. Tracy Borsinger '13 had a season high 17 points in the game. Then, on Saturday, Middlebury came back from 20 points down at Wesleyan in the second half to cut the lead to nine, but never got any closer, and lost 63-54. Perfetti scored 18 points in this game to go along with four assists.

"After a tough winter break we have become more aware of our weaknesses and we are trying to find solutions," Perfetti said. "Despite our 0-4 record in NESCAC play,

we know we have the ability to compete and win against the other NESCAC teams that are coming up on our schedule."

The Panthers, led by Perfetti rallied behind their captain and willed their way to victory in a back-and-forth 95-90 victory over Colby-Sawyer. Scarlett Kirk '14 led Middlebury with 22 points, but Perfetti was simply tremendous, attacking the basket as the game went on and refusing to let her team lose. The senior tri-captain from Clifton Heights, Penn. finished with 21 points and seven assists while shooting seven of 10 from the floor and four of six from beyond the arc. All five starters for the Panthers scored in double digits as Surrette added 21 points and tri-captain Maddie Moreau '12 and Tracy Borsinger finished with 15 and 12 points respectively. The Panthers as team shot 52 percent as a team.

Middlebury travels to Hamilton this Friday, Jan. 20, looking to pick up their first win in conference play.

Women's hockey splits Amherst series

By Mike Oster

While many Middlebury students were still home enjoying their winter break, the women's hockey team was on the ice training and competing at the beginning of 2012. Middlebury ended their first semester of competition with an impressive record of 5-0-2, earning the number four ranking in the nation.

The women got the year started with a doubleheader against Wesleyan on Jan. 6 and 7. Middlebury cruised to two victories over the Cardinals, 8-1 and 8-0 respectively, and advanced their record to 7-0-2. The first game saw goals from Jennifer Krakower '14 and Maria Bourdeau '12 — their first scores of the season — while Lauren Greer '13 stood out with two goals in the game. Middlebury's Maggie Woodward '13 scored two goals and assisted two more in the second game of the series while Lauren Pinsent '14 and Becca Shaw '12 split time in net to earn a shutout for the Panthers.

Middlebury continued its fantastic start to 2012 with a win against Utica on Jan. 10. Goals came from Woodward and Sara Ugalde '14, their fifth and sixth of the season respectively. Utica's Megan Myers snuck one by Middlebury's Pinsent to put the Pioneers on the board in the third period. Pinsent made 18 saves over the game, allowing the Panthers to take the match 2-1.

"I thought the team played very well against Utica," Pinsent said. "Our forwards sustained pressure in the offensive zone for most of the game, firing 40 shots at their goalie. As for the defense, they did a great job at breaking the puck out of our end and keeping Utica off of the scoreboard for the majority of the game. Overall, it was a great team effort."

The women continued NESCAC play with a doubleheader at Amherst this past weekend. The Lord Jeffs and Panthers went in to the weekend tied at the top of the conference rankings, both undefeated in conference play.

"For our Amherst games, we knew they were the most important games of the season not just because they are another NESCAC team, but also because we consider them a clear rival," said Greer. "We met them in the NESCAC Championship last season, and this season proves to be another competitive one."

In the first game, Middlebury took the initial lead with a goal from Grace Waters '12 with 11:03 remaining in the first period. The lead did not last long, however, as Amherst's Megan Doyen answered with a successful shot to the top right corner of Middlebury's net.

Amherst broke the tie halfway through the second period, and would hold the lead for the remainder of the game. Josie Fisher assisted Ellen Swiontkowski to give the Lord Jeffs their second goal of the night. Geneva Lloyd widened the Amherst lead later in the period on a power play with four minutes remaining.

Middlebury's Maggie Melberg '12 brought the Panthers within one goal off of an assist from Emily Fluke '15, but ultimately the Panthers suffered their first loss of the season with a final score 3-2.

"We had one solid period, and then just let the last two slip which resulted in a

loss," said Greer.

The resilient Panthers did not give up after the loss, instead turning the tables on the Lord Jeffs and taking the second game of the weekend 3-2. Molly Downery '13 gave Middlebury the lead first with a goal 11:02 into the first period. Melberg buffered the Panthers' lead with her second goal of the weekend before the period was over.

Amherst's Lloyd, who scored 10:55 in, recorded the only goal of the second period. But Panthers defender Krakower increased the Middlebury lead to 3-1 with her third goal of the season just 50 seconds into the third period. Lloyd managed another goal in the third, but ultimately it was not enough as the Panthers held on for the 3-2 final.

"Saturday's game was an incredibly exciting and physical game," said Greer. "For us it meant revenge from the previous game. We took momentum from early on in the game, which helped in the long run. Capitalizing on Amherst's mistakes was huge for us."

The two teams split the weekend and remain tied at the top of NESCAC rankings. Middlebury now stands 9-1-2 and host rivals Bowdoin (4-2 in NESCAC play) this weekend.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL vs. Wesleyan

65-62 W

The number one team in the country ran their record to 14-0 after a tight win over the Cardinals.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY vs. Amherst

3-2 L

The Panthers fell to Amherst in the second game of their weekend doubleheader to regain a share of the NESCAC lead with the Lord Jeffs. Not much to say. Except thank goodness this wasn't a NESCAC game.

HOCKEY vs. Plattsburgh

0-7 L

The men's team has won its last four matches after starting the season 0-3.

MEN'S SQUASH vs. George Washington

7-2 W

After a strong start to the season the Panthers have dropped seven straight.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Wesleyan

63-54 L

Men's basketball remains unbeaten

By Damon Hatheway

The men's basketball team returned to campus Jan. 6 to open NESCAC play after securing three wins over the winter recess on the road. Top-ranked Middlebury won its second tournament of the season with wins over Curry and Salem State in the Salem State Tournament despite playing without captain Nolan Thompson '13.

After dispatching Curry 83-54 the Panthers were taken the distance by Salem State. Joey Kizel '14 sealed the victory with two made free throws with just 18 seconds remaining in the game. Kizel and tournament M.V.P. Jake Wolfin '13 led the Panthers to victory, scoring Middlebury's final 21 points of the game and accounting for 41 of the team's 66 total points.

Middlebury then created fireworks in the first game of 2012, setting a new school record for points scored in a game with a 123-111 win over Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute on Jan. 3. Senior captain Ryan Sharry '12 scored a career high 41 points on 19 of 23 shooting in the win. Six other Panthers recorded double-digit points as the team shot a scorching 61 percent in the game.

By the time Middlebury returned home to Pepin Gymnasium and conference play they had held the number-one spot in the country for exactly a month while playing eight of their ten games without captains Thompson and Sharry on the floor at the same time. In the conference opener,

Middlebury trounced Bates 79-57 behind a vintage Sharry performance. The senior from Braintree, Mass., finished the game with 24 points on seven of 10 shooting from the floor and was a perfect nine for nine from the free throw line to go along with 10 rebounds.

Sharry was even better the next day in an 82-69 win over a testy Tufts team that was coming off an upset win at Williams the night before. Sharry shot nine for 12 from the floor, two for three from beyond the arc and had three tremendous blocks, which he paired with his 22 points. Wolfin and Kizel stole the show, however, as the Panthers' backcourt carried the team down the stretch once again. Wolfin came alive late in the second half, attacking the basket to extend the Middlebury lead with consecutive layups and finished with 14 points and six assists. Kizel, meanwhile, provided the dagger for the Panthers with a long-range three point shot from beyond NBA range with 2:05 remaining in the game. The sophomore guard and Middlebury's second-leading scorer finished with 16 points on the night on six of eight shooting.

The number one team in the country ran their undefeated record to 14-0 on Saturday, Jan. 16, after a pair of road wins over NESCAC foes. First, Wolfin shot down Connecticut College with a barrage of three point shots. Wolfin, the assist leader in the NESCAC, finished with 21 points in the 72-56 win on seven of eight attempts — all from beyond the

arc — and six assists.

"[Wolfin's performance] was really outstanding," said head coach Jeff Brown. "He made some opportunity three point baskets. To shoot seven of eight from beyond the line is a tremendous show. It was a big boost to get that offensive load from him."

Ryan Sharry, meanwhile, chipped in 18 points and 11 rebounds while Kizel had 11 points and six assists.

The Panthers then travelled to Wesleyan, where they survived late to cling to a 65-62 win against the upstart Cardinals. After a near-win against NESCAC heavy-hitter Amherst and a 24 point blowout win over Williams the night before falling to Middlebury, Wesleyan is an up-and-coming team in the conference.

Middlebury seemed to have the game in hand after extending its lead to nine with 3:52 remaining but a number of uncharacteristic turnovers allowed the Cardinals to whittle the Panthers' lead to one with 16 seconds left in regulation before Kizel traveled to the line and knocked down two free throws. The 6'0" sophomore from Short Hills, N.J. leads the Panthers in free throw attempts and free throws made while shooting nearly 90 percent from the line.

"The biggest thing was the key free throws by Joey at the end," Brown said. "We have great confidence when we get the ball to Joey and Jake at the end of games that they're going to step up to the line and knock down free throws."

Kizel led the Panthers in



JEFF PATTERSON

Joey Kizel '14 shoots a three-point shot over a Jumbos defender.

scoring with 16 points and James Jensen '14 totaled 13 on four of six shooting from the floor. Sharry, meanwhile, had a quiet 14 points and 11 rebounds in the win.

Then Tuesday, Jan. 17 Middlebury doused Vermont rivals Castleton State 97-71 to match the programs best start in its history at 15-0. Sharry recorded

his sixth double-double of the season, leading the team with 28 points and 13 rebounds and Kizel added 18 more, shooting six for 10 from the floor. Peter Lynch '13 and first-year Dylan Sinnickson '15 provided a spark off the bench with 12 and 15 points respectively.

The Panthers travel to Hamilton (11-6) this weekend.

Rikert upgrades trail to World Cup length

By Damon Hatheway

The Middlebury Nordic skiing program has received a tremendous upgrade with a number of recent improvements made to the Rikert Nordic Center. A new 2.5 kilometer loop has been connected to the existing 2.5 kilometers of trail at Rikert, which will allow Middlebury, already one of very few small schools to own its own ski center, to compete at an even higher level and host future competitions such as the 2013 NCAA Championship. The improvements, which were agreed to when Middlebury was awarded hosting privileges for the 2013 NCAA Championship, have given the Nordic team the perfect combination of an advanced course within the intimate confines of Rikert.

"The unique aspect of Rikert is that the relationship with the ski team is super tight," said head coach Andrew Gardner. "That's been a huge boon for us and we're seeing it in our ability to prepare. Obviously it's a low-snow year for us this year but we're up there now and what we're able to do because of that relationship is huge."

Gardner acknowledges there is an element to the improvements that allows the current program to match the high standard set by the achievements of the past.

"The course adds security in

that having these venues, we don't have to fight to figure out where we're going to train. And then one of the biggest challenges in cross-country skiing is finding terrain tough enough. And as national level courses get tougher, having this is a huge advantage for us."

The new course — which is in the process of being homologated by the Fédération Internationale de Ski — will ensure that the level of competition at Rikert is high enough to hold not only the NCAA Championship but other national races and possibly a World Cup.

"The last time we had held the NCAA Tournament in 2001 there was some criticism and concerns based on the width of the trails and the difficulty of the trails," Gardner said. "[The trails] have long been criticized for not being hard enough and I don't see that being a concern anymore. We've definitely improved that."

The improvements at Rikert go beyond just the course, as the lodge at the ski area has been renovated as well. As a result, the benefits are widely distributed and improve not just Middlebury's Nordic program, but also the community at large. The town of Middlebury — which was already a hotbed for cross-country skiers — and the college will feel the benefits of the improvements.

SEE RIKERT, 21

Swimming and diving earn strong wins over Hamilton

By Kevin Yochim

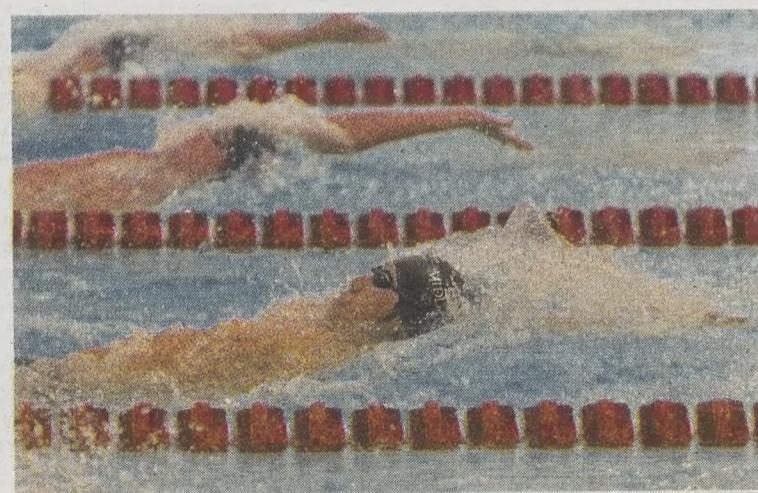
The men's and women's swimming and diving teams cruised to easy victories last weekend against Hamilton. The men won by a huge margin with a score of 167-65, improving to 2-5 on the year. The women won 164-78 and are now an impressive 6-1 this year.

It was the third meet of 2012 for the Panthers, who competed at both Colby and Bates a week before. The men defeated Colby and fell to Bates, while the women won both matchups.

Back at home on Saturday, there was little hope for a struggling Hamilton. The men won a whopping 12 of 14 events with 10 different individual winners. They got off to a strong start by winning the 400-yard medley relay and taking the top two spots in the 1000-yard freestyle. They never looked back.

Nick Daly '12 won the 50-yard freestyle in a blazing 21.68 seconds, nearly a full second ahead of teammate Adam Schaffer '12, who finished second. Perhaps the most impressive races of the day were the 200-yard butterfly and 500-yard freestyle. In both events Middlebury swimmers captured the top three spots.

Nick Keenan '14 won the 200-yard individual medley with



ANDREW PODRYGULA

Kazu Asaga '12 races to victory in the 200 backstroke against swimmers from Hamilton. Both the men and women were victorious against the Continentals.

a time of 2:02.67 seconds, while Kazu Asaga '12 broke two minutes in the 200-yard backstroke with a time of 1:59.97 seconds. First-year swimmer Chris Vandiford '15 easily won the 200-yard breaststroke with a time of 2:19.93 seconds. The Panthers finished off their victory with a dominant seven-second win in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

On the diving side, Hamilton had no competitors. Skylar Dallmeyer-Drennen '14 and Omar Carmical '12 finished the 3-meter event with scores of 229.13 and 217.05, respectively.

The women built upon their success from earlier in the season and captured nine of the 13 events. The women won their first two races by large margins and went on to an easy victory. The 400-yard medley relay team, led by backstroker Andie Tibbets '14, broke four minutes with a time of 3:59.01, a full six seconds ahead of Hamilton's top team.

Katherine Loftus '12 then dominated the 1000-yard freestyle with a time of 10:44.12, winning by almost 14 seconds. She

SEE SWIMMING, 22

